THE HORROR WORLD OF JUNJI

伊藤潤二 恐怖マンガ Collection

[13] サーカスが来た

朝日ソノラマ

伊藤潤二●恐怖マンガCOLLECTION 13 サーカスが来た

朝日ソノラマ

9784257903253

1920979005525

ISBN4-257-90325-2

C0979 ¥552E

朝日ソノラマ

定価：本体552円＋税

[13] サーカスが来た

サーカスが来た
墓標の町
隣の窓
怪奇ひきずり兄弟・次女の恋人
怪奇ひきずり兄弟・降霊会

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伊藤潤二・恐怖マンガCOLLECTION⑬ サーカスが来た

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伊藤潤二 恐怖マンガ Collection

[13]サーカスが来た

朝日ソノラマ

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（「月刊ハロウィン」1991年4月号掲載）

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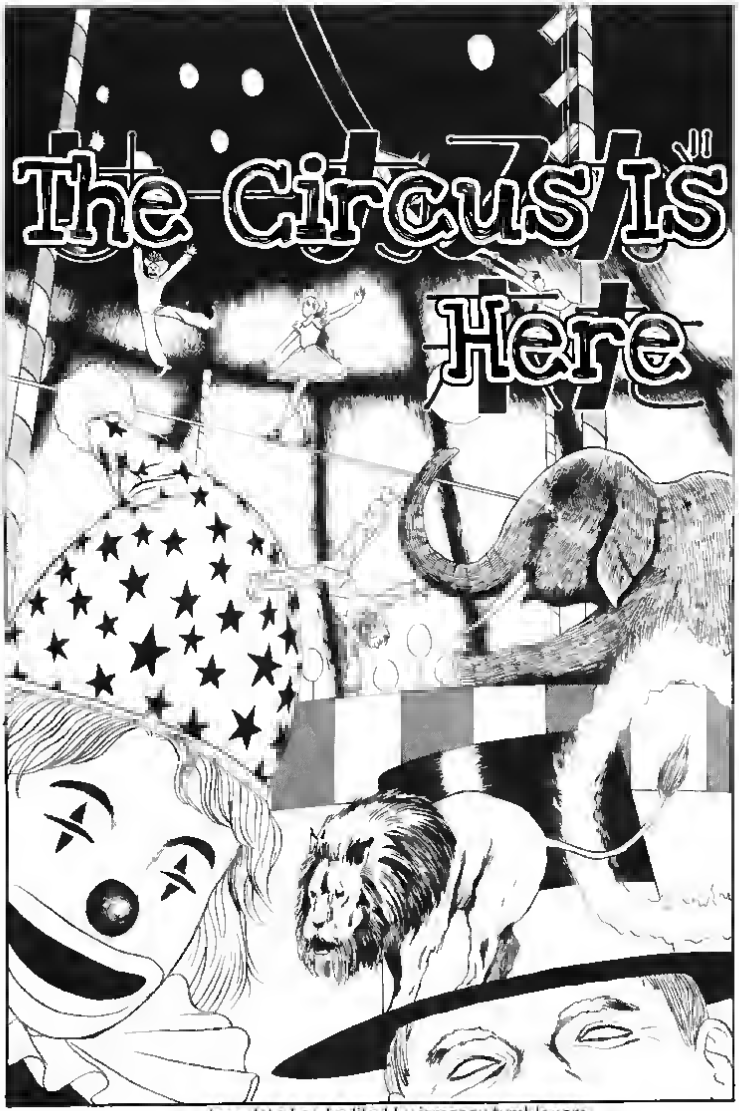
BY JUNJI ITOU



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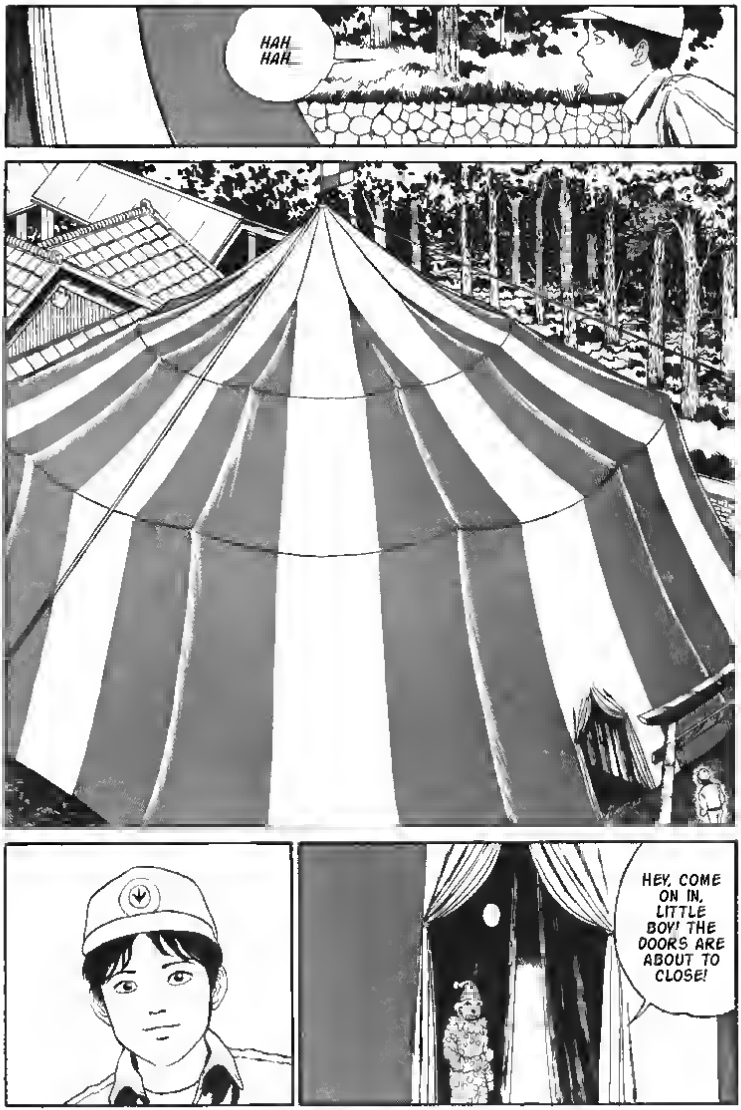
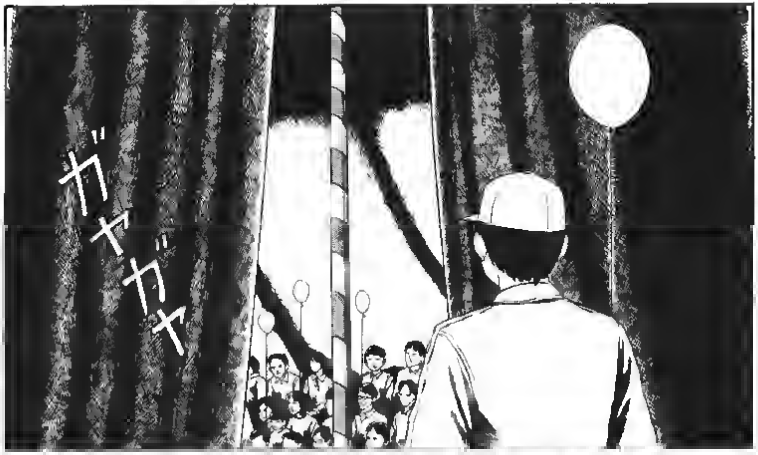
raws provided by marie

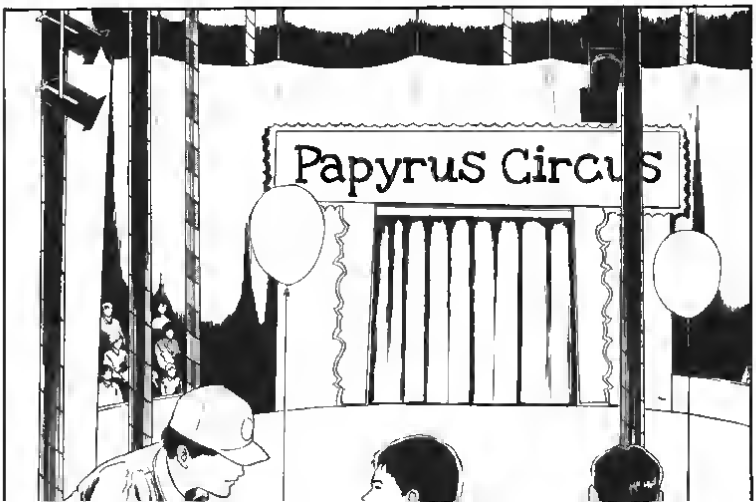
THE CIRCUS IS COMING! THE CIRCUS IS COMING!
THE CIRCUS IS HERE!
WHY ON EARTH ARE YOU SO SLOW, HIROKO? DON'T YOU WANNA SEE THE CIRCUS ACTS?
HEY, WAIT FOR ME!
YOU CAN TAKE YOUR OWN SWEET TIME, I'M GOING FIRST!
ONII-CHAN!
OF COURSE I WANNA!
THEN BE FASTER! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THEM!

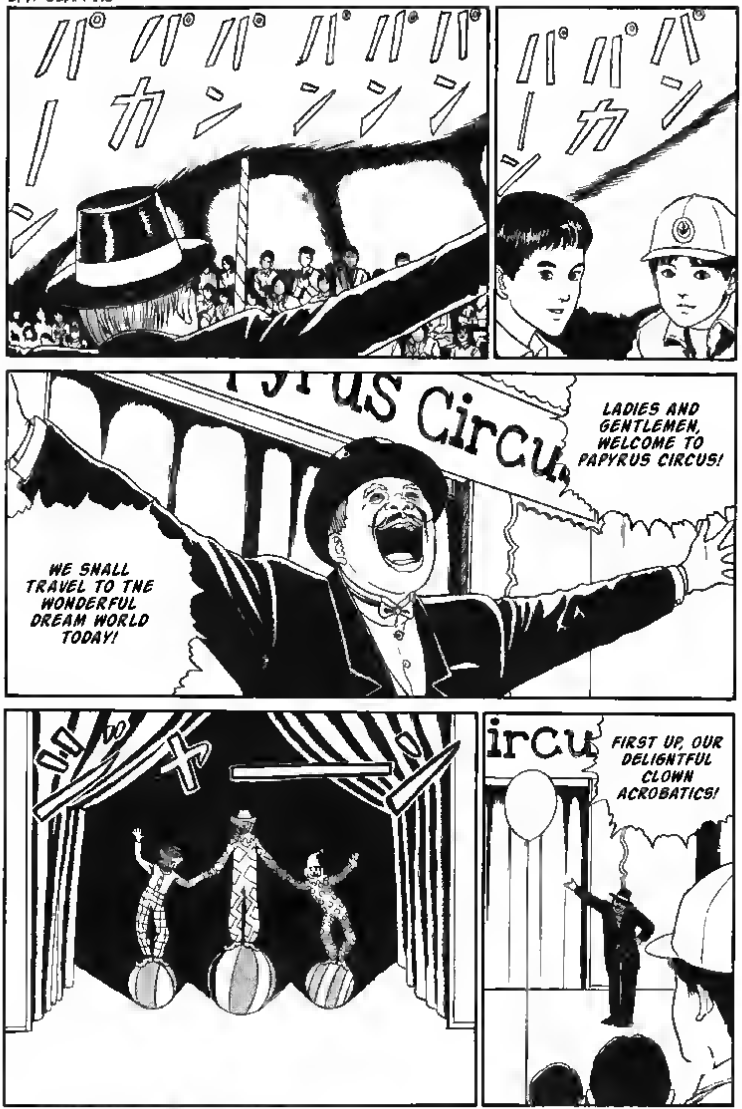
THE CIRCUS IS HERE!
THE CIRCUS! THE CIRCUS!
BAKA!
WAAHH !!
AT THE ANCIENT SHRINE...
IN SUCH A RURAL AREA...
BE-SIDES...
THAT GIRL MIGHT ALSO...
SURPRISINGLY, THERE'S ACTUALLY A CIRCUS OF THAT SIZE HERE TO PERFORM!


HAH HAH
HEY, COME ON IN, LITTLE BOY! THE DOORS ARE ABOUT TO CLOSE!

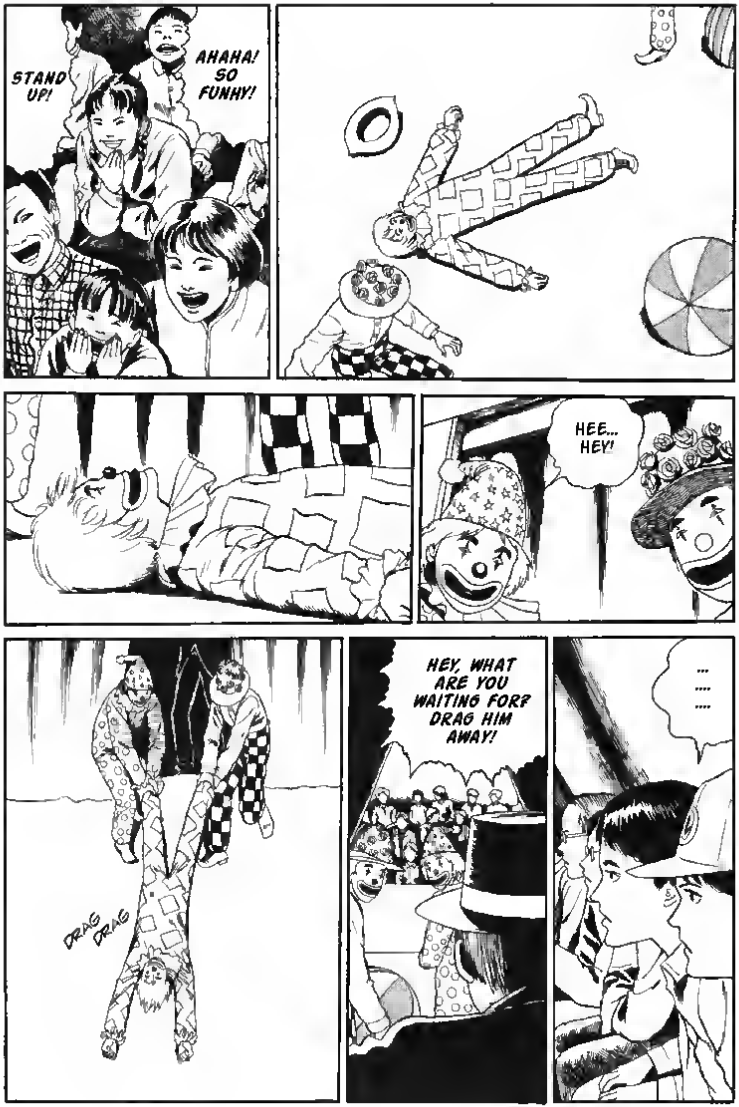

ガヤガヤ

HEYO! YOSHIYUKI, HERE! OVER HERE!
EH? ISN'T THAT KOJI?


Papyrus Circus


SFX CLAPPING
パパパパパパパ
パパパ
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WELCOME TO PAPYRUS CIRCUS!
WE SHALL TRAVEL TO THE WONDERFUL DREAM WORLD TODAY!
FIRST UP, OUR DELIGHTFUL CLOWN ACROBATICS!

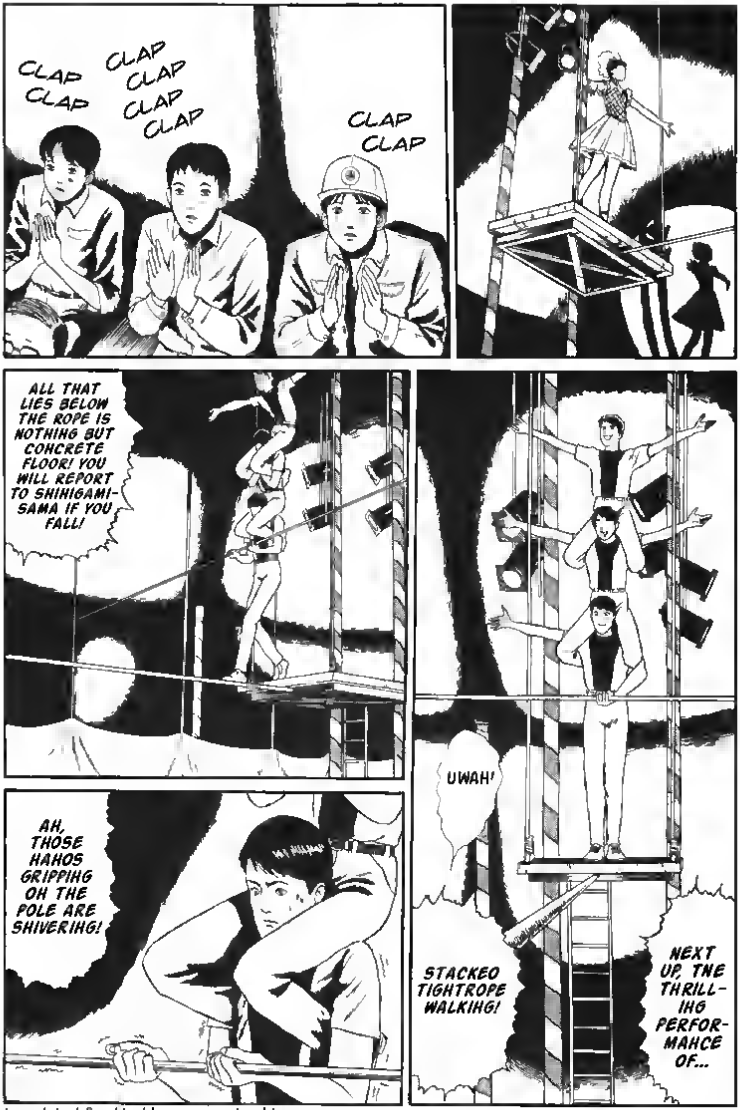
THESE THREE CLOWNS WILL PERFORM BALL BALANCING!
ワクワク
HA! BUT THEIR ACT IS A LITTLE AWKWARD DON'T YOU THINK?
WHOA, THAT'S A CLOWN!
A REAL CLOWN!
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING ONE!
ゴッン

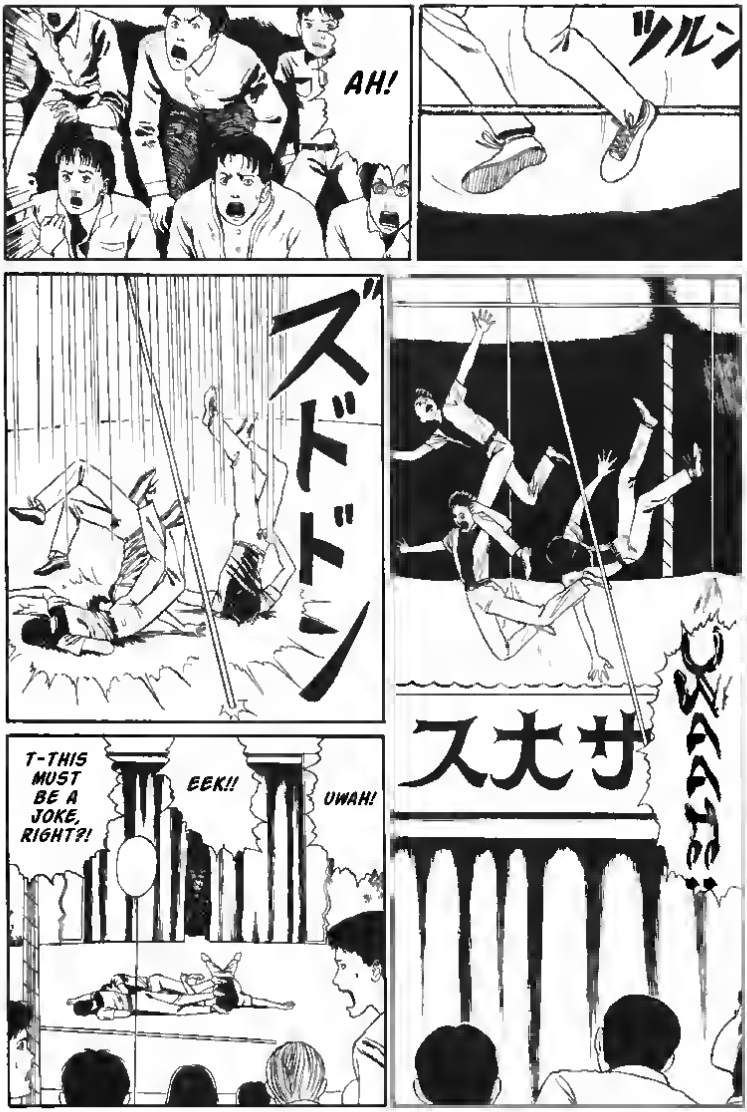

STAND UP!
AHAHA! SO FUNNY!
HEE... HEY!
DRAG DRAG
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? DRAG HIM AWAY!
...
.....
.....

WOAH, AN ACCIDENT RIGHT FROM THE START!
ガヤガヤ
PERHAPS HE FELL QUITE BADLY?
A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR HER, EVERYONE!
THE AMAZING TIGHT-ROPE WALKING!
OUR CIRCUS' PRIDE, LEILIYA, WHO IS GOING TO PERFORM...
パパパパ
カン
DOHO, IT'S TIME TO SWITCH THE MOOD, DEAR GUESTS! NEXT UP, WE HAVE...

IT'S HER!
AH, I WAS RIGHT!
WHEH I HEARD ABOUT THE CIRCUS COMIHG, I THOUGHT "MAYBE..."
I KNEW IT! SHE IS A MEMBER OF THE CIRCUS TROPE!
I WOULD SEE THIS UHFAMILIAR GIRL AT THE PARK OFTEH...
FROM THEH OH...
SHE JUST STARES INTO SPACE, DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING AT ALL.

THAT PALE SKIN, LIGHTLY TINTED WITH PINK...
WITH A VERY PRETTY FACE!
SHE MUST BE ONLY SLIGHTLY OLDER THAN US.
BECAUSE EVERYONE WAS SNEAKING PEEKS OF HER!
WHEN THAT GIRL WAS THERE, EVERYONE BECAME QUIETER
MAYBE THEY ARE JUST LIKE ME, COMING HERE TO FIND OUT TOO?
EVERYONE KNEW SHE WASN'T FROM THIS AREA...
AND WE SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN PULLED HERE BY HER...
NO... I'M SURE THE OTHER BOYS ALSO THOUGHT THE SAME.
I KEPT WONDERING WHERE SHE CAME FROM. I BET KOJI HAD THE SAME THOUGHTS AS WELL.
SO, SHE REALLY IS FROM THE CIRCUS!

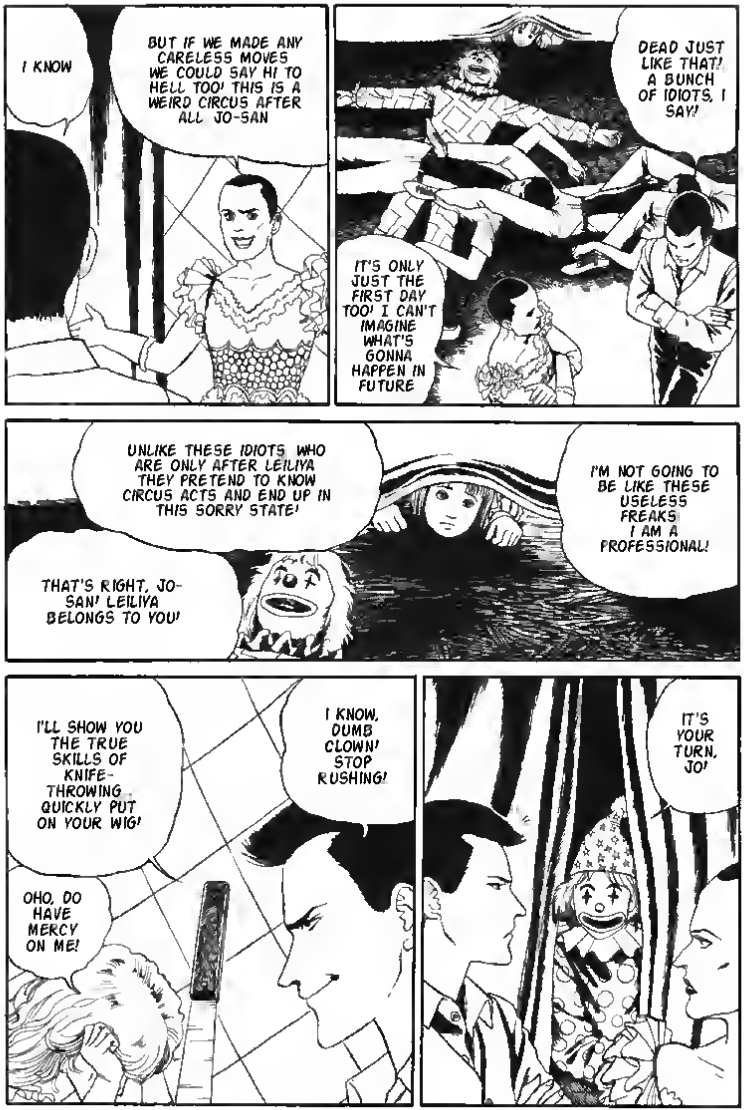

CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
ALL THAT LIES BELOW THE ROPE IS NOTHING BUT CONCRETE FLOOR! YOU WILL REPORT TO SHIHIGAMI-SAMA IF YOU FALL!
AH, THOSE HANDS GRIPPING ON THE POLE ARE SHIVERING!
UWAH!
STACKED TIGHTROPE WALKING!
NEXT UP, THE THRILLING PERFORMANCE OF...

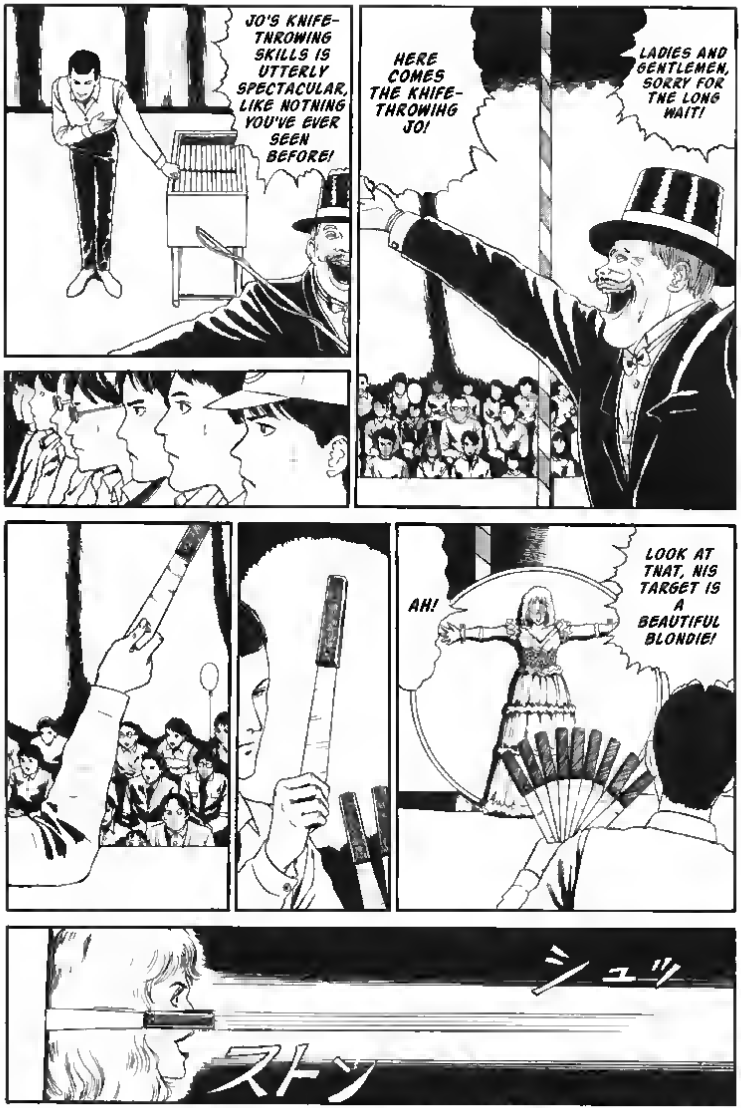

AH!
ツルン
ズドドン
スサササ
T-THIS MUST BE A JOKE, RIGHT?!
EEK!!
UWAH!

ガヤガヤ
ガヤガヤ
HEY! DON'T DAZE! HURRY, DRAG HIM OUT!
THAT SOUND WAS SO LOUD!
THEY CAN'T LIVE PAST THAT...

DON'T WORRY, EVERYONE! LUCKILY THEY ONLY FELL ON THE FLOOR, AND NOT INTO THE SEA...
...OR ELSE THEY WOULD HAVE DROWNED AND BECAME SHARK FEED!

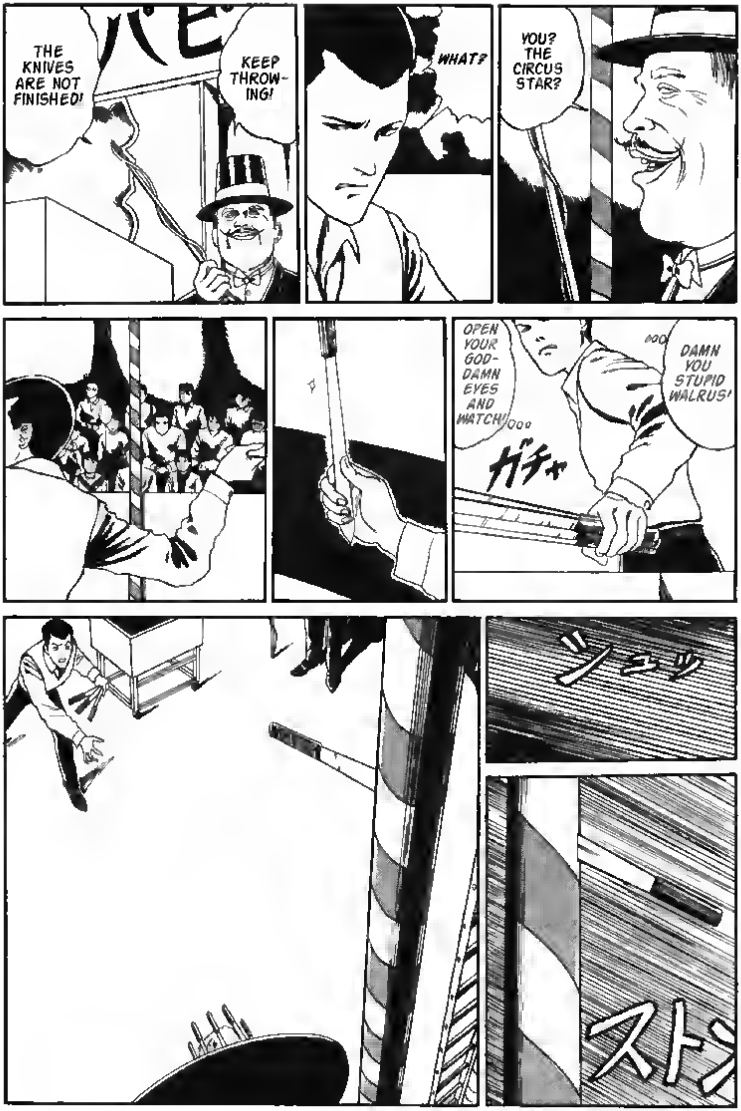
SNIFF
SNIFF
WHATEVER. I'LL JUST FIND A PLACE TO SLIP IN...
THERE'S NO ENTRANCE AT ALL
HOW DO I GO IN?


I KNOW
BUT IF WE MADE ANY CARELESS MOVES WE COULD SAY HI TO HELL TOO! THIS IS A WEIRD CIRCUS AFTER ALL JO-SAN
DEAD JUST LIKE THAT! A BUNCH OF IDIOTS, I SAY!
IT'S ONLY JUST THE FIRST DAY TOO! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IN FUTURE
UNLIKE THESE IDIOTS WHO ARE ONLY AFTER LEILIYA THEY PRETEND TO KNOW CIRCUS ACTS AND END UP IN THIS SORRY STATE!
I'M NOT GOING TO BE LIKE THESE USELESS FREAKS I AM A PROFESSIONAL!
THAT'S RIGHT, JO-SAN! LEILIYA BELONGS TO YOU!
I'LL SHOW YOU THE TRUE SKILLS OF KNIFE-THROWING QUICKLY PUT ON YOUR WIG!
I KNOW, DUMB CLOWN! STOP RUSHING!
OHO, DO HAVE MERCY ON ME!
IT'S YOUR TURN, JO!

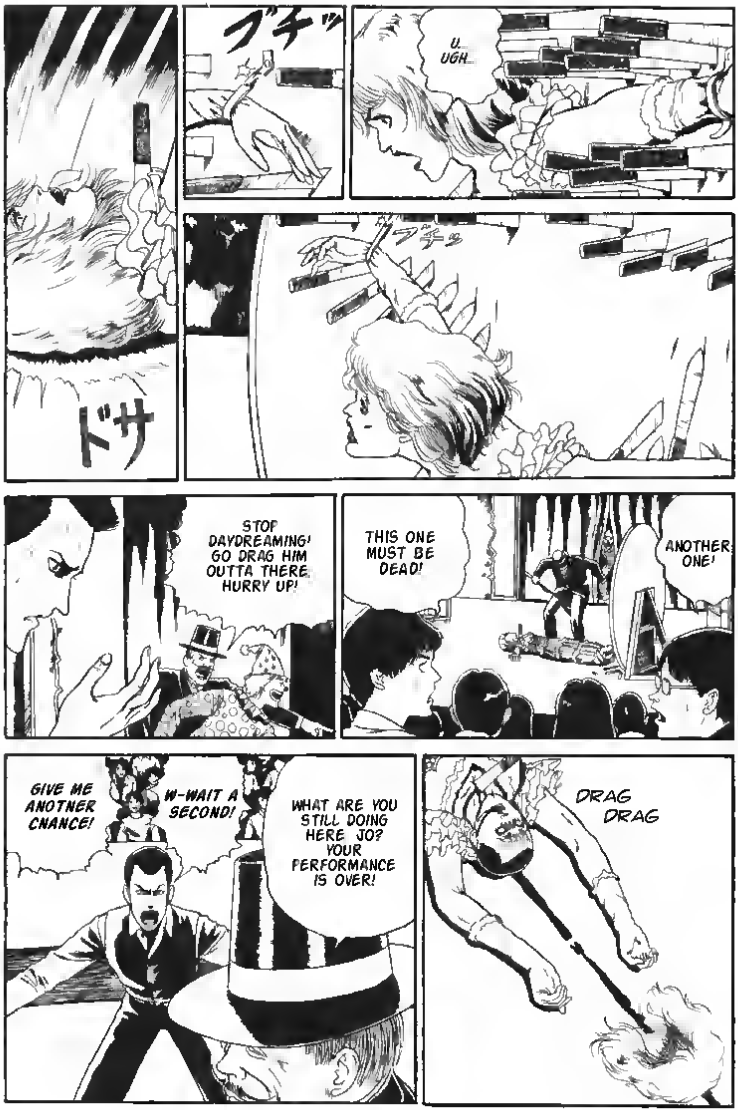

JO'S KNIFE-THROWING SKILLS IS UTTERLY SPECTACULAR, LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE!
HERE COMES THE KNIFE-THROWING JO!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, SORRY FOR THE LONG WAIT!
AH!
LOOK AT THAT, HIS TARGET IS A BEAUTIFUL BLONDIE!
シュッ
ストン

translated & edited by lemonsy tumblr com

ストン
ストン
シュッシュッ
パチパチ
パチパチ
OH, WOW!
ストン
AREN'T I THE CIRCUS STAR?
HOW'S IT CHIEF?
パチパチ


THE KNIVES ARE NOT FINISHED!
KEEP THROW-ING!
WHAT?
YOU? THE CIRCUS STAR?
OPEN YOUR GOD-DAMN EYES AND WATCH!
DAMN YOU STUPID WALRUS!
ガチャ
シュッ
ストン

IMPOS-
SIBLE.
THIS...
OH GOLLY,
HOW DID THE
KNIFE END UP
THERE?
AH!
HEY JO-
SAN!
WATCH
CLOSE-
LY!
DAMN
IT!
HOHOHO
YOU PLAN
TO BE THE
CIRCUS
STAR LIKE
THIS?
J
JO-SAN
ブス


ドサ
ブチッ
U..
UGH..
ブチッ
STOP DAYDREAMING! GO DRAG HIM OUTTA THERE. HURRY UP!
THIS ONE MUST BE DEAD!
ANOTHER ONE!
GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE!
W-WAIT A SECOND!
WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE JO? YOUR PERFORMANCE IS OVER!
DRAG
DRAG

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME OH EARTH THAT ANYONE HAS EVER ATTEMPTED "GRAVITY THEOREM"!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, KNIFE-THROWING JO IS GOING TO PERFORM A SPECIAL ACT, EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOU ALL! DO PAY ATTENTION!
CHAN-CE?
ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR HIM!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU'VE HEARD JO! HE'S GOING TO PERFORM THE VERY FIRST "GRAVITY THEOREM" RIGHT NOW!
INTE-REST-ING!!
OH!
WHAT IS UP HIS SLEEVES?
EH?! WHAT IS JO PLANNING TO DO? HE IS LYING ON THE GROUND!

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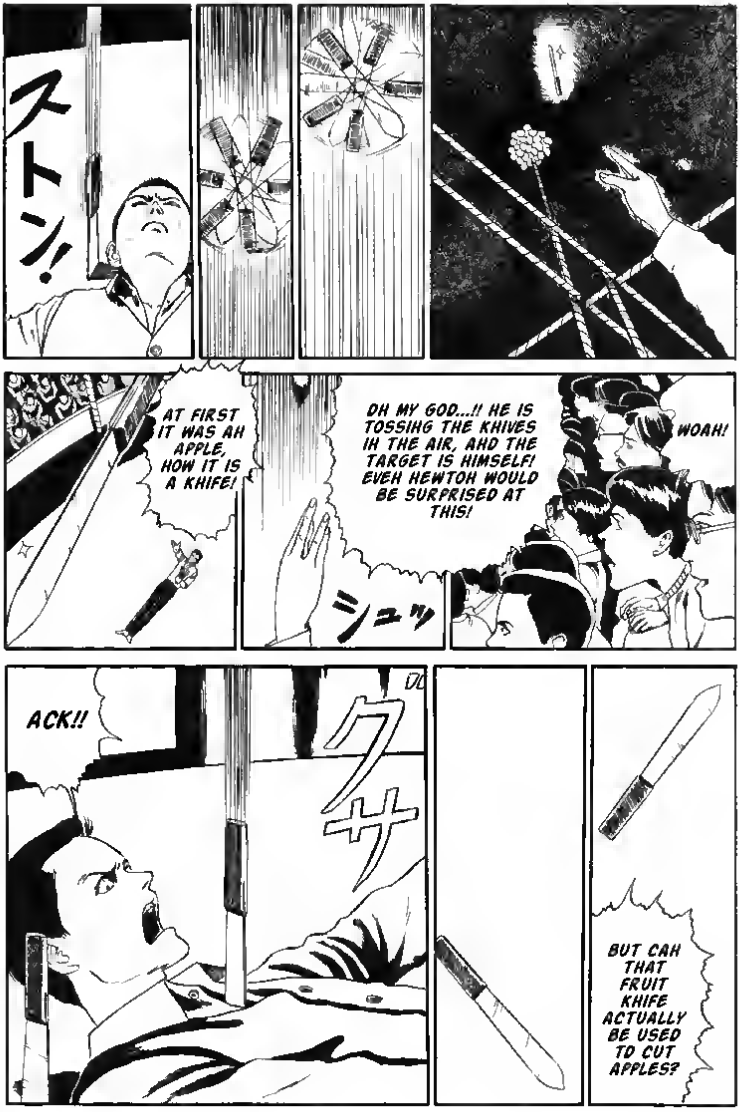
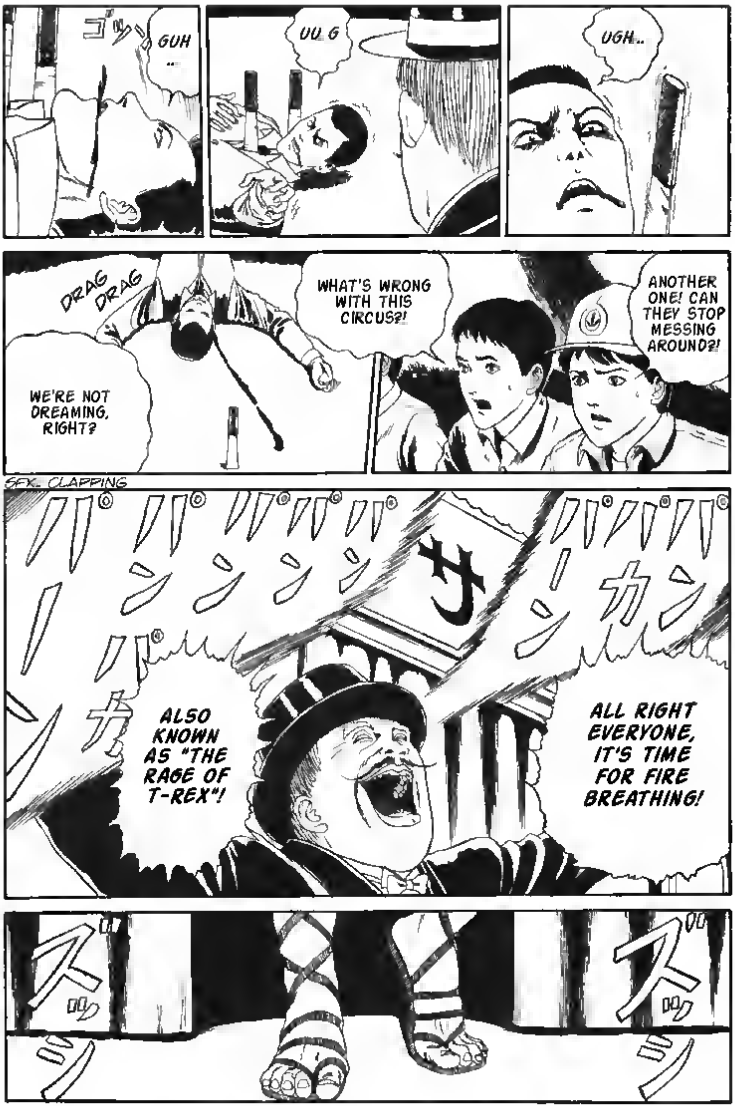
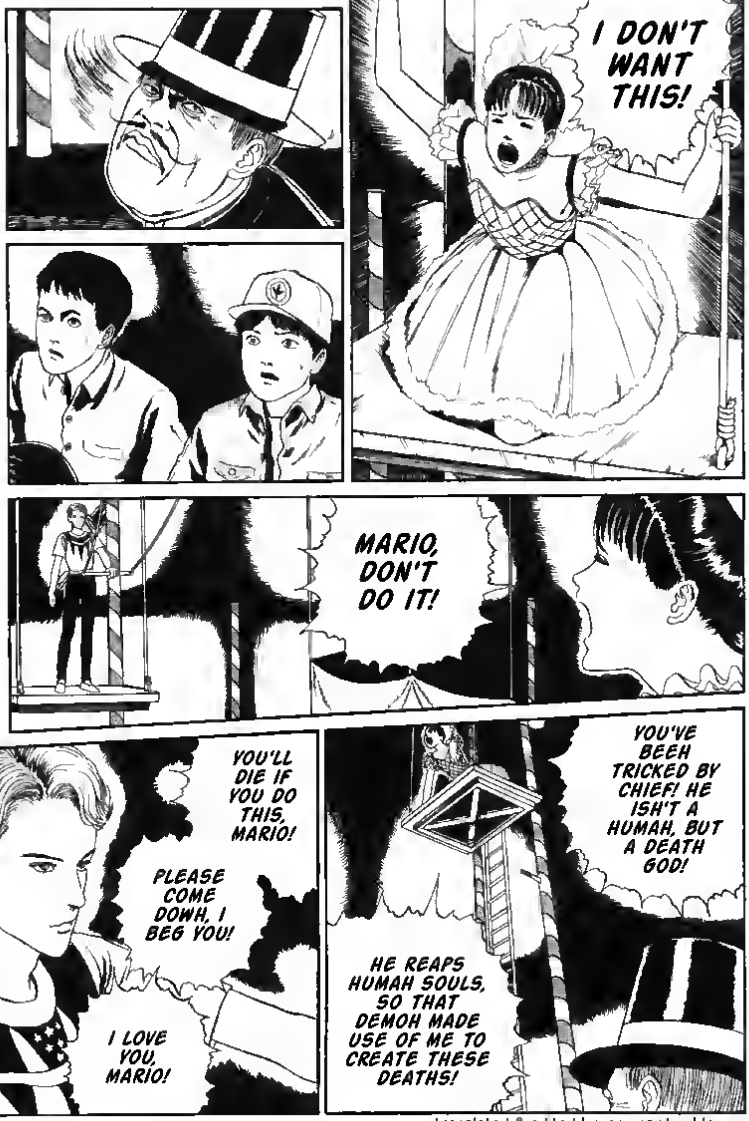

ストン!
AT FIRST IT WAS AH APPLE, HOW IT IS A KHIFE!
OH MY GOD...!! HE IS TOSSING THE KHIVES IH THE AIR, AHD THE TARGET IS HIMSELF! EVEH HEWTOH WOULD BE SURPRISED AT THIS!
シュッ
WOAH!
ACK!!
クサ
BUT CAH THAT FRUIT KHIFE ACTUALLY BE USED TO CUT APPLES?


GUH...
UU G
UGH...
DRAG DRAG
WE'RE NOT DREAMING, RIGHT?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS CIRCUS?!
ANOTHER ONE! CAN THEY STOP MESSING AROUND?!
SFX: CLAPPING
ALSO KNOWN AS "THE RAGE OF T-REX"!
ALL RIGHT EVERYONE, IT'S TIME FOR FIRE BREATHING!

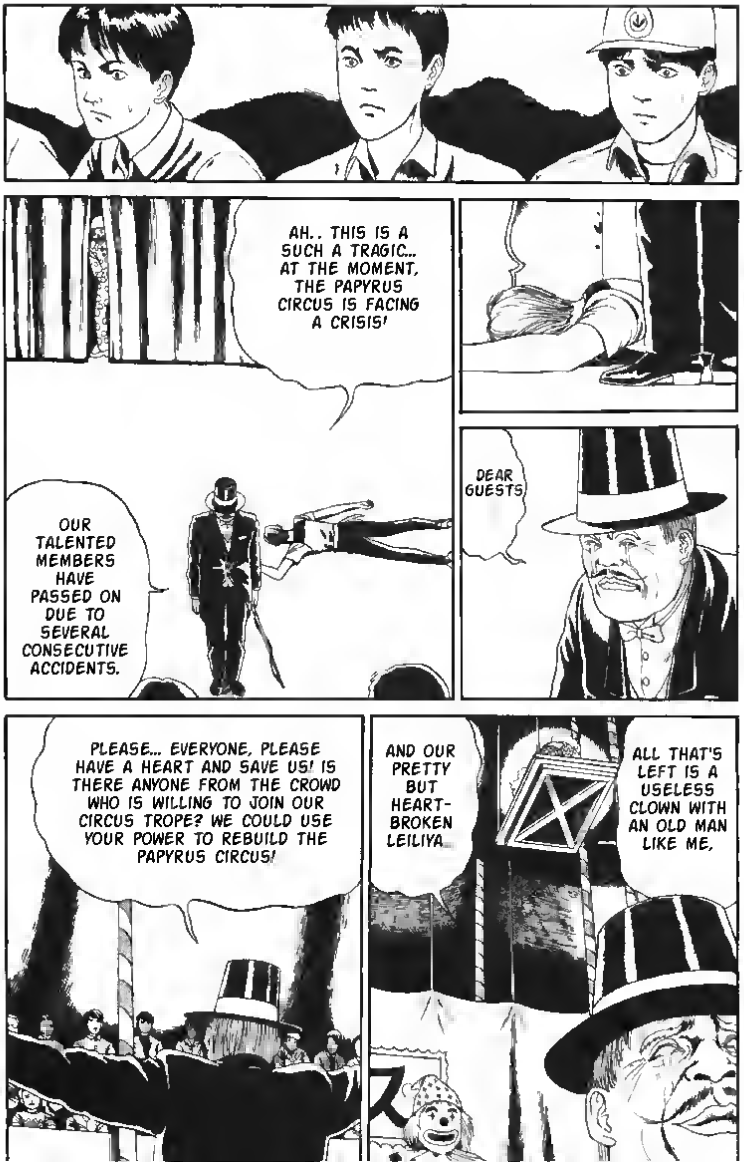
ブオー
UWAH!
ボー
EEYA AAAA AA!!!
YIKES!!

FALLING FROM TIGHTROPE WALKING, DEAD FROM KNIFE THROWING AND THIS FIRE BREATHER BURNING HIMSELF TO DEATH EVERYTHING ENDS WITH A TRAGEDY!
IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE FOR SUCH A CIRCUS TO EXIST?
EEYAAAA!!
WE WERE ENTIRELY IMMOBILISED WITH HORROR!
THE LION TAMER WAS ALSO EATEN BY THE LION!
THE LATTER HUMAN ROCKET HAD CASUALTIES TOO, DUE TO THE EXPLOSION OF THE ROCKET!
パンパカパーン
WHICH IS DONE BY OUR GORGEOUS LEILIYA AND OUR MOST HANDSOME MEMBER MARIO,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, OUR PERFORMANCE WILL COME TO AN END WITH OUR LAST ACT.
パンパカパーン
TRAPEZE!

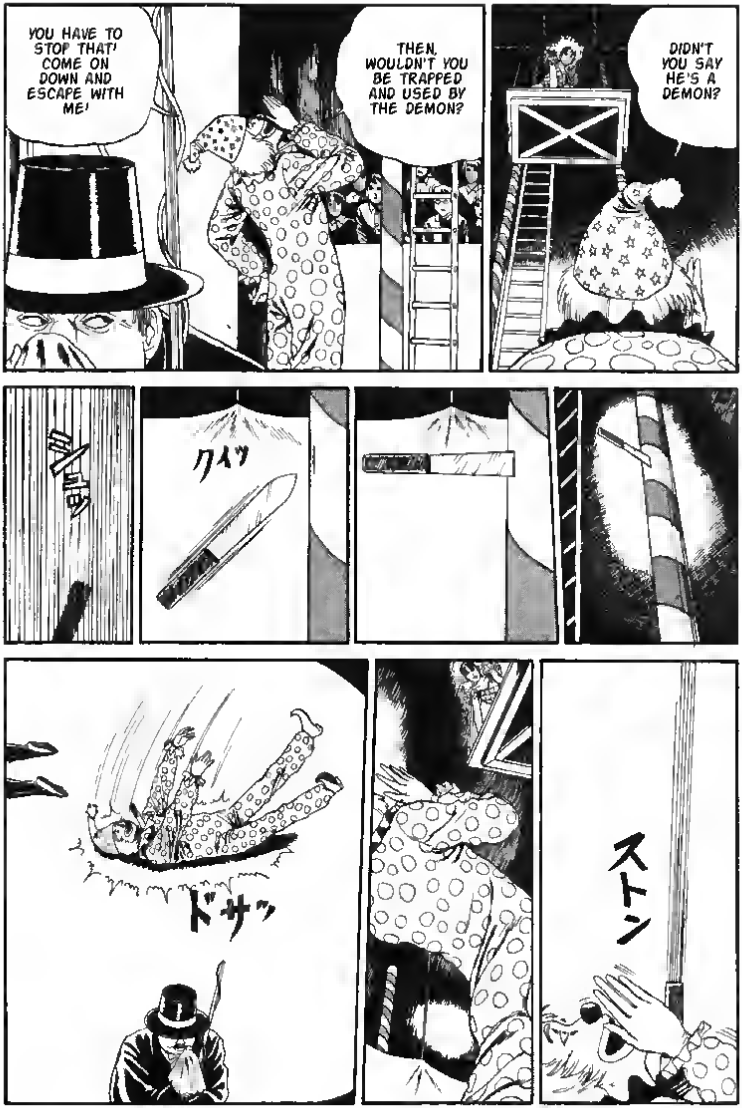

I DON'T WANT THIS!
MARIO, DON'T DO IT!
YOU'LL DIE IF YOU DO THIS, MARIO!
PLEASE COME DOWN, I BEG YOU!
I LOVE YOU, MARIO!
YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED BY CHIEF! HE ISN'T A HUMAN, BUT A DEATH GOD!
HE REAPS HUMAN SOULS, SO THAT DEMON MADE USE OF ME TO CREATE THESE DEATHS!

translated & edited by lemonsy.tumblr.com

MA-
RIO!
DON'T WORRY, LEILIYA! I WON'T FAIL THIS! I WILL MAKE THIS A SUCCESS.
THEN BECOME THE CIRCUS STAR. THEN I CAN PROPOSE TO YOU PROPERLY!
READY, LEILIYA?
EEEYAAAA YYYAAA AA!!
MARIO!


AH.. THIS IS A SUCH A TRAGIC... AT THE MOMENT, THE PAPYRUS CIRCUS IS FACING A CRISIS!
OUR TALENTED MEMBERS HAVE PASSED ON DUE TO SEVERAL CONSECUTIVE ACCIDENTS.
DEAR GUESTS,
PLEASE... EVERYONE, PLEASE HAVE A HEART AND SAVE US! IS THERE ANYONE FROM THE CROWD WHO IS WILLING TO JOIN OUR CIRCUS TROPE? WE COULD USE YOUR POWER TO REBUILD THE PAPYRUS CIRCUS!
AND OUR PRETTY BUT HEART-BROKEN LEILIYA...
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS A USELESS CLOWN WITH AN OLD MAN LIKE ME,

HOW'S IT? ANYONE VOLUNTEERING?
WU... WUU...
W-WHAT? TAKE THAT BEAUTY AS YOUR BRIDE?
ME TOO!
I'M IN THEN!
AS LONG AS YOU HAVE TALENT, YOU CAN BECOME PART OF US... IF YOU BECOME OUR CIRCUS STAR...
YOU CAN TAKE LEILIYA AS YOUR BRIDE!
LEILIYA! LEILIYA!
LEILIYA!
WUU... WU...
HURRY UP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? COME ON DOWN!
IT'S NO USE. I CAN'T ESCAPE FROM HIM...
WU...
COME ON DOWN WHILE THE CHIEF IS DISTRACTED!


YOU HAVE TO STOP THAT! COME ON DOWN AND ESCAPE WITH ME!
THEN, WOULDN'T YOU BE TRAPPED AND USED BY THE DEMON?
DIDN'T YOU SAY HE'S A DEMON?
ドサッ
ストン

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WAAHH GOD HELP US!
HIROKO, YOU'RE BACK! WHY'RE YOU CRYING? EH? WHERE'S YOUR BROTHER? WEREN'T YOU WITH HIM?
WAA.. WAAH.. MUMMY!
MUMMY... MUMMY... ONII-CHAN BOARDED THE CIRCUS' CAR AND LEFT... I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT WENT...
SO WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?

THE CIRCUS IS HERE * END

ぼ
ひょう
まち
GRAVETOWN
JUNJI ITO
TRANSLATOR: JO
CLEANER: CHARM
TYPESETTER: SPIRAPHOBIA
PROOFREADER: JENNIFER
SLUG-CHICKS.BLOGSPOT.COM

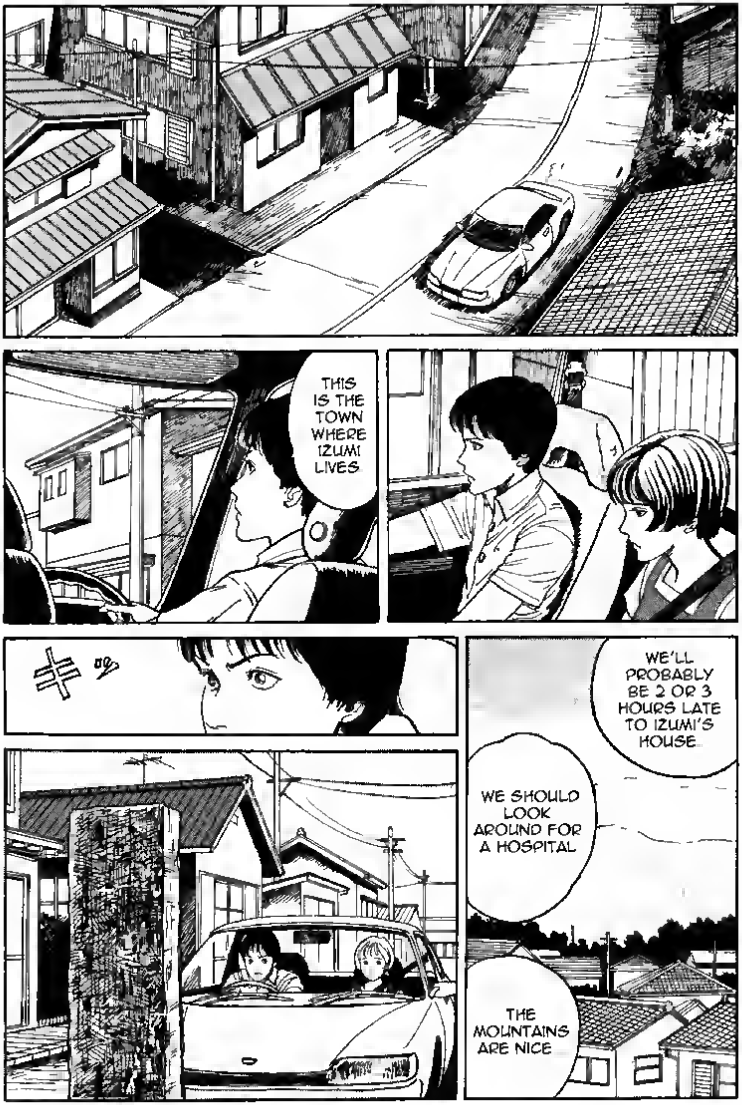
IZUMI, A CLOSE FRIEND OF MINE WHO CHANGED SCHOOLS LAST YEAR, WROTE A LETTER TO ME
SHE MENTIONED THAT THE NEW TOWN SHE LIVES IN IS AMAZING, AND HOPES THAT I'LL VISIT WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT FOR ME
SHE INVITED YOU OVER?
YES. I'M INTENDING TO VISIT HER DURING THE HOLIDAYS.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, KAORU, I CAN GIVE YOU A LIFT! I JUST BOUGHT A NEW CAR!!
I WONDER IF IT'S ALRIGHT... DIDN'T YOU JUST GET YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE, NII-SAN? WILL IT BE SAFE?
THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR, SILLY

ゴーッ
NII-SAN, AREN'T YOU IN A GOOD MOOD BECAUSE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE IZUMI?
THE WEATHER'S GOOD, AND THE CAR IS IN TIP-TOP CONDITION
REALLY BRINGS MY MOOD UP
EH, REALLY?
BUT IZUMI SEEMED REALLY HAPPY WHEN SHE KNEW YOU WOULD BE VISITING TOO!
HAHA - IS THAT SO
WHAT RUBBISH, KAORU! I'M ONLY TAGGING ALONG BECAUSE I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY CUTE LITTLE SISTER!

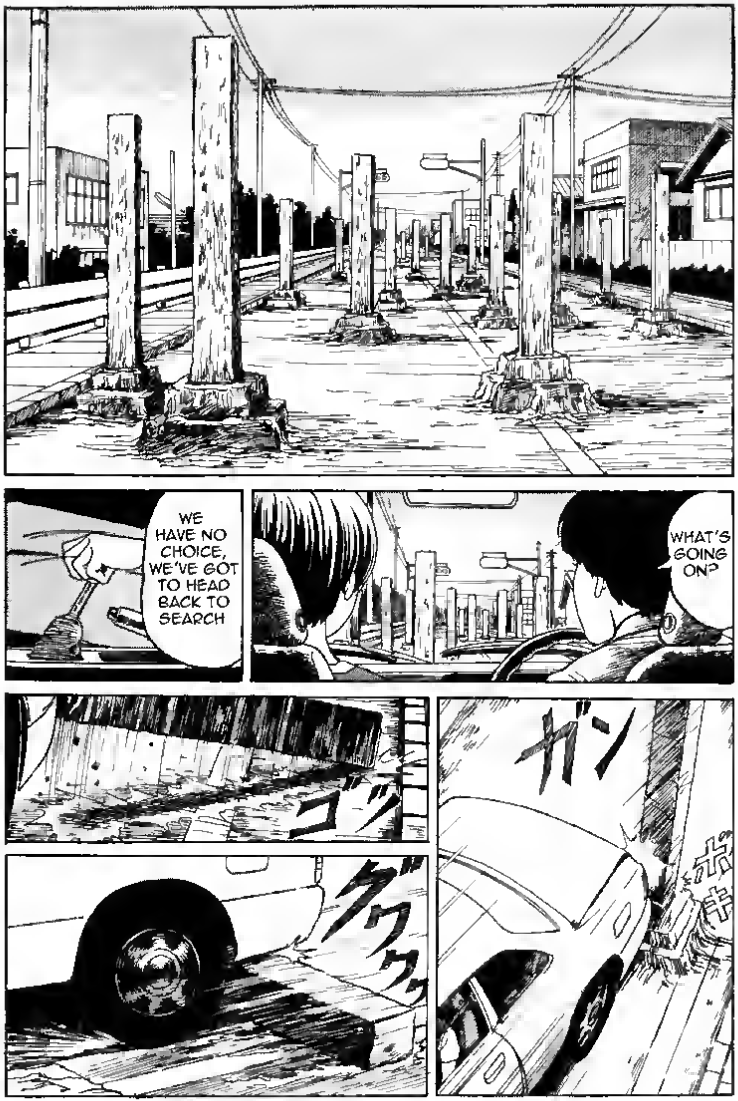
NAH, WE'LL BE THERE SOON. AHAHAHA!
DO YOU NEED TO REST, NII-SAN?
WE'VE BEEN TRAVELLING FOR 6 HOURS, IT'S SO FAR AWAY
WHY IS IT SO AMAZING?
EH? IT'S NOTHING HEY, ABOUT THE AMAZING TOWN...
NII-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU SMILING ABOUT?
AH!
BE CAREFUL 'NII-SAN!
AH...
EH?

ガシン
DAMN!
HEY!
HEY! WAKE UP!
OH NO
THIS IS SERIOUS
KAORU! HELP HER TO THE CAR!! WE NEED TO GET HER TO THE HOSPITAL FAST!

SHE'S BADLY INJURED. HER FACE IS ALL SWOLLEN.
NO... OH NO, NII-SAN... HER PULSE STOPPED!
WHAT!
IS SHE DEAD?
WE HAVE TO HURRY TO THE HOSPITAL!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, NII-SAN? WHY DID YOU STOP?


THIS IS THE TOWN WHERE IZUMI LIVES
WE'LL PROBABLY BE 2 OR 3 HOURS LATE TO IZUMI'S HOUSE
WE SHOULD LOOK AROUND FOR A HOSPITAL
THE MOUNTAINS ARE NICE

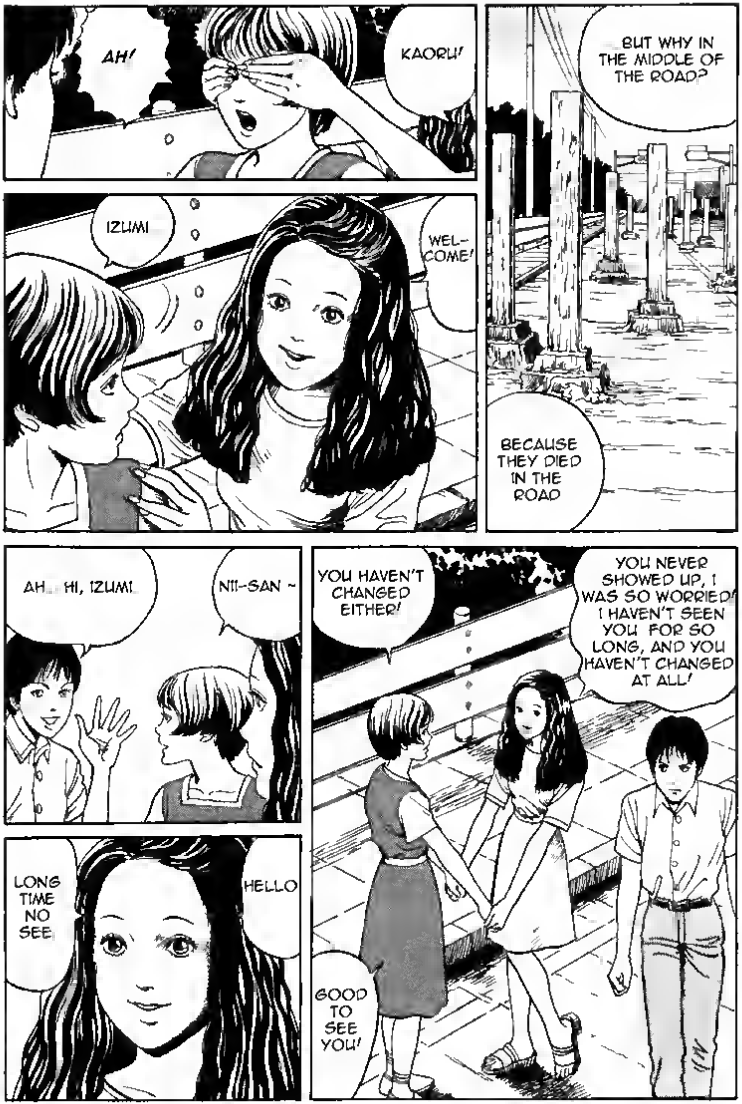
WHY IS IT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD?
A ROAD SIGN?
WHAT IS THIS? RIGHT ON THE MIDDLE...
A GRAVE-STONE?
IT SEEMS LIKE A GRAVESTONE
ブルルル
AH!
WHY WOULD A GRAVESTONE BE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD?

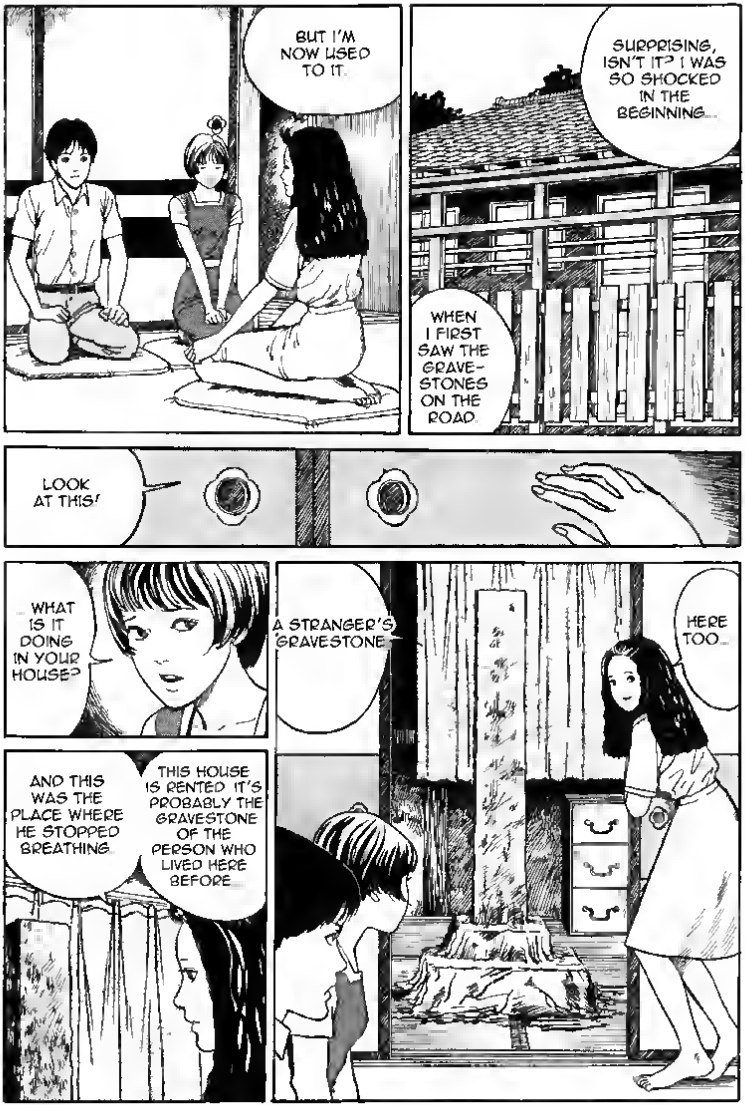

WE HAVE NO CHOICE, WE'VE GOT TO HEAD BACK TO SEARCH
WHAT'S GOING ON?
ゴッ
ガン
ボキ
グワッ

TCH! IT WAS KNOCKED OVER
SHIT
WHAT LUCK
AH ~ WHAT A GOOD DRIVER
THE GRAVE-STONE HAS BROKEN IN HALF!
AH!
YOU'RE NOT FROM THIS TOWN, HUH?
WE NEED A CAR JACK TO LIFT THE CAR
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GET THE CAR JACK. YOU DO HAVE ONE IN THE TRUNK, DON'T YOU?
WE'LL GIVE YOU A HAND
AH... OKAY

……
HOPEFULLY, IT'S NOT OFFENDED
IT WAS CRUSHED PRETTY BADLY
32-75
ガチャッ
バタン

HERE WE GO!
IT'S HONESTLY NOT YOUR FAULT, WITH ALL THESE BUILT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD
HU-
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.
IT'S NOTHING.
ARE THESE ALL GRAVE-STONES?
YES... IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WERE ONLY GRAVESTONES OF PEOPLE WHO DIED IN CAR ACCIDENTS.
HOWEVER PEOPLE HAVE BEEN BUILDING GRAVESTONES HERE RECENTLY, AND NOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DRIVE THROUGH!

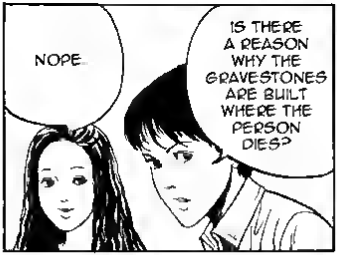

AH!
KAORU!
BUT WHY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD?
IZUMI
WEL-COME!
BECAUSE THEY DIED IN THE ROAD
AH... HI, IZUMI.
NII-SAN ~
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED EITHER!
YOU NEVER SHOWED UP, I WAS SO WORRIED! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR SO LONG, AND YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL!
LONG TIME NO SEE.
HELLO
GOOD TO SEE YOU!


BUT I'M NOW USED TO IT.
SURPRISING, ISN'T IT? I WAS SO SHOCKED IN THE BEGINNING...
WHEN I FIRST SAW THE GRAVE-STONES ON THE ROAD
LOOK AT THIS!
...WHAT IS IT DOING IN YOUR HOUSE?
A STRANGER'S GRAVESTONE...
HERE TOO...
AND THIS WAS THE PLACE WHERE HE STOPPED BREATHING.
THIS HOUSE IS RENTED. IT'S PROBABLY THE GRAVESTONE OF THE PERSON WHO LIVED HERE BEFORE.

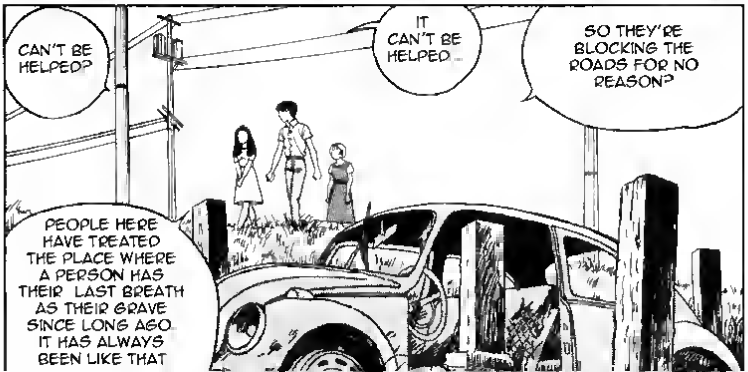
...THIS TOWN... ARE GRAVESTONES BUILT WHERE A PERSON STOPS BREATHING?
YEAH... GUESS SO
I HATED IT AT FIRST, BUT ALL THE HOUSES HAVE GRAVESTONES IN THEM!
AH...
ARE YOU SURE THAT BOTH OF YOU CAN STAY HERE FOR A FEW DAYS?
WE WERE REALLY SHOCKED WHEN WE FIRST GOT HERE!
EH...
YOU TWO DON'T LOOK SO GOOD...

SO WE'RE IN A WEIRD MOOD...
ALSO, OUR CAR KNOCKED DOWN A GRAVESTONE WHEN WE ARRIVED...
REALLY, SORRY...
RIGHT, KAORU?
IT'S NOTHING... WE'RE JUST TIRED FROM THE LONG JOURNEY HERE.
YE... YES.
THEN YOU TWO SHOULD HAVE A GOOD REST. IZUMI WILL SHOW YOU AROUND LATER.
YES, MOTHER.

THESE ARE THE GRAVESTONES OF THIS TOWN'S FOREFATHERS
THE GRAVESTONES REALLY ARE EVERYWHERE!
THEY DIED EXACTLY WHERE THE GRAVESTONES ARE.


NOPE.
IS THERE A REASON WHY THE GRAVESTONES ARE BUILT WHERE THE PERSON DIES?

WHAT A WEIRD CUSTOM...
PEOPLE ARE TAKEN OUT OF THE HOUSE WHEN THEIR LIVES ARE ABOUT TO END, SINCE THEIR WISH IS TO DIE OUTSIDE.


CAN'T BE HELPED?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
SO THEY'RE BLOCKING THE ROADS FOR NO REASON?
PEOPLE HERE HAVE TREATED THE PLACE WHERE A PERSON HAS THEIR LAST BREATH AS THEIR GRAVE SINCE LONG AGO. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.

HE'S GOING TO DIE!
HURRY!
ガラガラ ガラガラ

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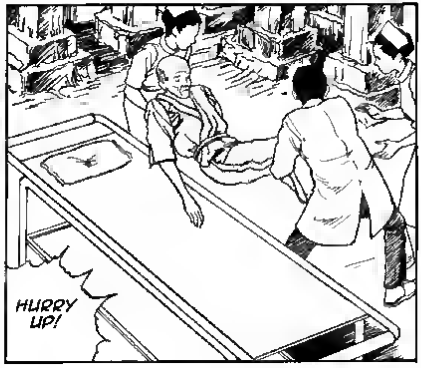
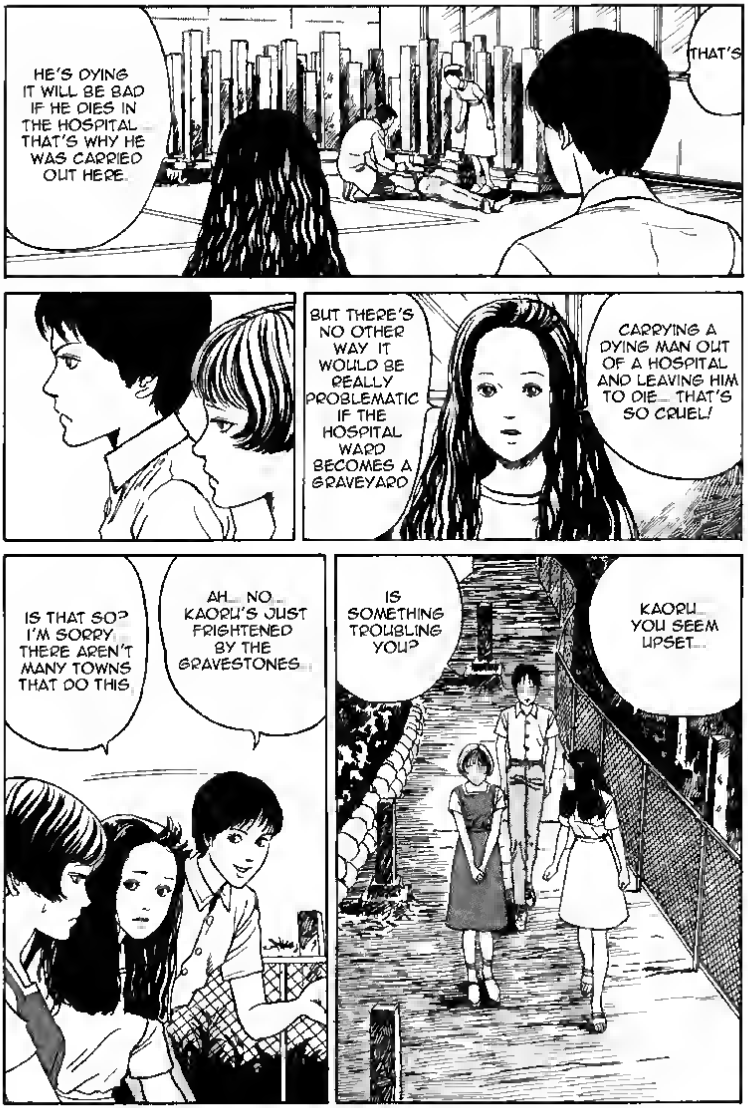

HURRY UP!

PUT HIM DOWN GENTLY!!


HE'S DYING IT WILL BE BAD IF HE DIES IN THE HOSPITAL THAT'S WHY HE WAS CARRIED OUT HERE.
THAT'S
BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY IT WOULD BE REALLY PROBLEMATIC IF THE HOSPITAL WARD BECOMES A GRAVEYARD
CARRYING A DYING MAN OUT OF A HOSPITAL AND LEAVING HIM TO DIE... THAT'S SO CRUEL!
IS THAT SO? I'M SORRY THERE AREN'T MANY TOWNS THAT DO THIS
AH... NO... KAORU'S JUST FRIGHTENED BY THE GRAVESTONES...
IS SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU?
KAORU... YOU SEEM UPSET...

YEAH! SOON SHE'LL BE FINE!
NO... THAT'S NOT IT... I'M JUST A LITTLE CAR SICK... I'M FEELING KIND OF NAUSEOUS
SINCE YOU USED TO LOVE HORROR STORIES
I THOUGHT KAORI MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THIS
OKAY...
YOU SHOULD REST... LET'S HEAD BACK HOME
AH!
THESE GRAVESTONES LOOK WEIRD LOOK AT ALL THE DIFFERENT SIZES!
NII-SAN PRETENDED TO BE CALM, ACTING LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED BUT I CAN'T DO THAT

...
POOR CAT... IT GOT RUN OVER BY A CAR...
EH?
AH! DON'T TOUCH IT, TSUYOSHI!
HOW UNFORTUNATE... LET'S FIND A PLACE TO BURY IT
A GRAVE-STONE...?
...
JUST LEAVE IT ALONE... THERE WILL BE A GRAVESTONE FOR IT LATER
YOU CAN'T TOUCH IT. THE CAT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REST PEACEFULLY IF YOU TOUCH IT.

THEY EVEN BUILD GRAVESTONES FOR CATS WHO DIED ON THE ROAD!
THE PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN HAVE SUCH KIND HEARTS
NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY THERE ARE GRAVESTONES OF DIFFERENT SIZES. THE SMALL ONES ARE FOR ANIMALS
IT'S GETTING LATE... WHERE DID SHE GO?
AYUMI'S NOT BACK YET?
IZUMI
SHE'S IZUMI'S SISTER.
WHO'S AYUMI?
I DON'T KNOW... I HAVEN'T SEEN HER.

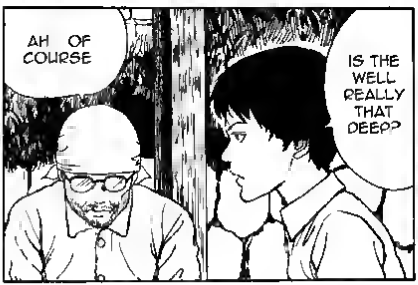
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO TAKE A WALK IN THE MOUNTAINS
SHE MUST HAVE WANDERED TOO FAR AWAY
STILL THE SAME I REALLY CAN T DO ANYTHING WITH THAT BAD TEMPER OF HERS
SO_ HOW IS AYUMI?
WE HAVE TO CALL THE POLICE FAST!!
HAVE YOU CALLED THE POLICE?
SHE PROBABLY GOT LOST IN THE MOUNTAINS OR MAYBE SHE WAS KIDNAPPED_
AYUMI STILL HADN T COME BACK HOME MUCH LATER THAT NIGHT_

AND SHE HAS A SMALLER SIZED BODY
SHE'S A LITTLE SHORTER THAN I AM
WHAT DOES AYUMI LOOK LIKE?
KAORU...
...SHE ALWAYS HAS IT BRAIDED...
LONG HAIR... BUT...
HAIR-STYLE?
BUT... I COULDN'T HAVE RECOGNIZED HER BECAUSE HER FACE WAS SO SWOLLEN!
DON'T BE SILLY! IF THAT WAS HER, YOU WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED HER RIGHT AFTER WE KNOCKED HER DOWN!
NO WAY... COULD IT BE THAT THE GIRL IN THE TRUNK...

HER PARENTS SAID THAT THE GIRL WAS WEARING A STRIPED TOP AND WHITE SHORTS
STRIPED TOP AND WHITE SHORTS
NEXT MORNING, THE SEARCH STARTED IN THE NEARBY MOUNTAINS
THE FIREFIGHTERS AND THE NEIGHBORS ALL CAME TO HELP OUT IN THE SEARCH
IT'S NOTHING WE ARE WORRIED TOO BUT IZUMI, THINK POSITIVE NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO AYUMI
I'M SORRY WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE FUN TOGETHER, BUT...
YELL IF YOU HEAR US..!
OI
AYUMI
NII-SAN WENT TO HELP WITH THE SEARCH WITHOUT BEING ASKED
AND SO I DID THE SAME

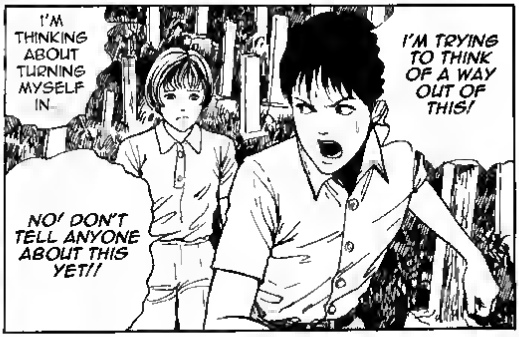
.....
SHH! DON'T SAY SUCH OMINOUS THINGS!
CAN'T SEEM TO FIND HER... COULD IT BE THAT SHE'S ALREADY DEAD?
WHAT IF HER FAMILY HEARS YOU?
WHAT? IT WOULD BE BAD IF THAT HAPPENED.
COULD SHE HAVE FALLEN INTO THE SHRINE'S WELL?
LET'S HEAD BACK TO TOWN TO LOOK.
WE CAN'T FIND A SINGLE TRACE OF HER... MAYBE SHE'S NOT IN THE MOUNTAINS.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE ANYTHING THIS WELL IS SO DEEP WE CAN T EVEN SEE THE BOTTOM!
WELL? DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?


AH OF COURSE
IS THE WELL REALLY THAT DEEP?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'UNABLE TO REST IN PEACE'?
EVEN NOW, THE BOTTOM STILL CAN'T BE SEEN. I WONDER WHO DUG THIS WELL SO DEEP
SINCE LONG AGO, THE BODIES OF THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO REST IN PEACE HAVE BEEN THROWN INTO THIS WELL
YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU?
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SURVIVE IF YOU FELL INTO THAT WELL
IT'S VERY SAD TO BE UNABLE TO REST IN PEACE
BEING UNABLE TO BECOME A GRAVESTONE
BY 'UNABLE TO REST IN PEACE', I MEAN
THE MAN WHO DIED AT THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY SHOULD BE ON HIS WAY TO HEAVEN
YOU CAN GO TAKE A LOOK LATER

THE BODY IS STILL LOCKED IN THE CAR TRUNK...
I KNOW...
WHAT DO WE DO, NII-SAN?
WE ARE THE ONES WHO KILLED AYUMI...


I'M THINKING ABOUT TURNING MYSELF IN...
I'M TRYING TO THINK OF A WAY OUT OF THIS!
NO! DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS YET!!

THANKS TO YOU, HE'S NOW ON HIS WAY TO HEAVEN

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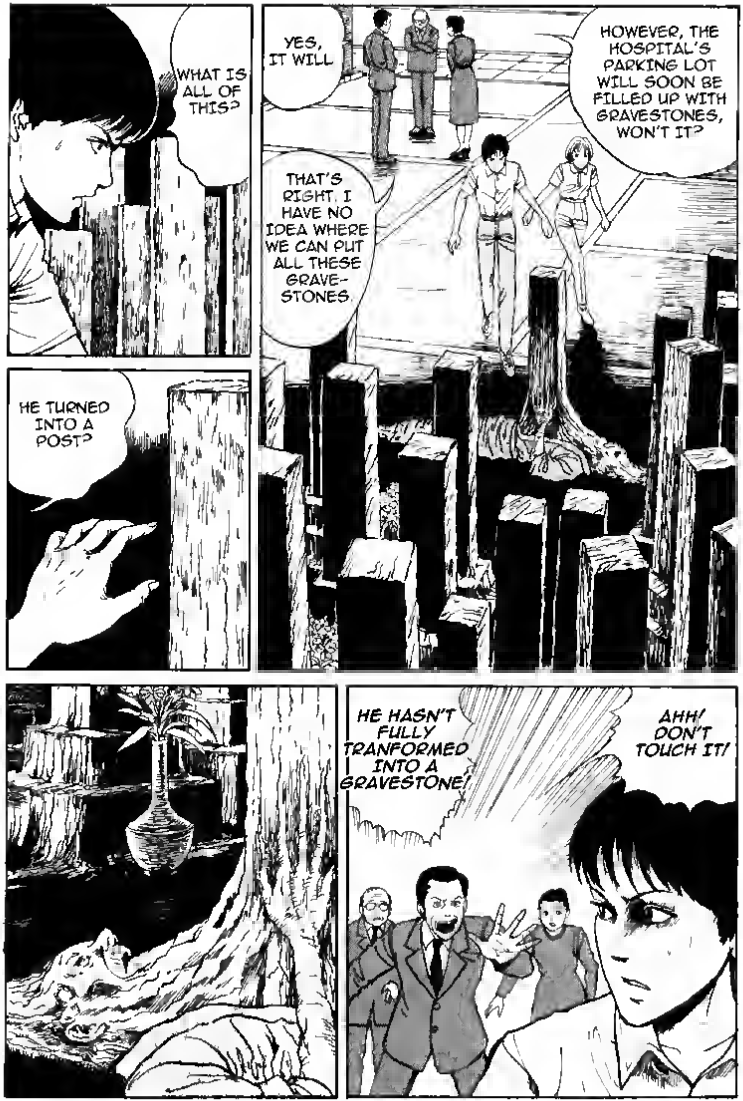
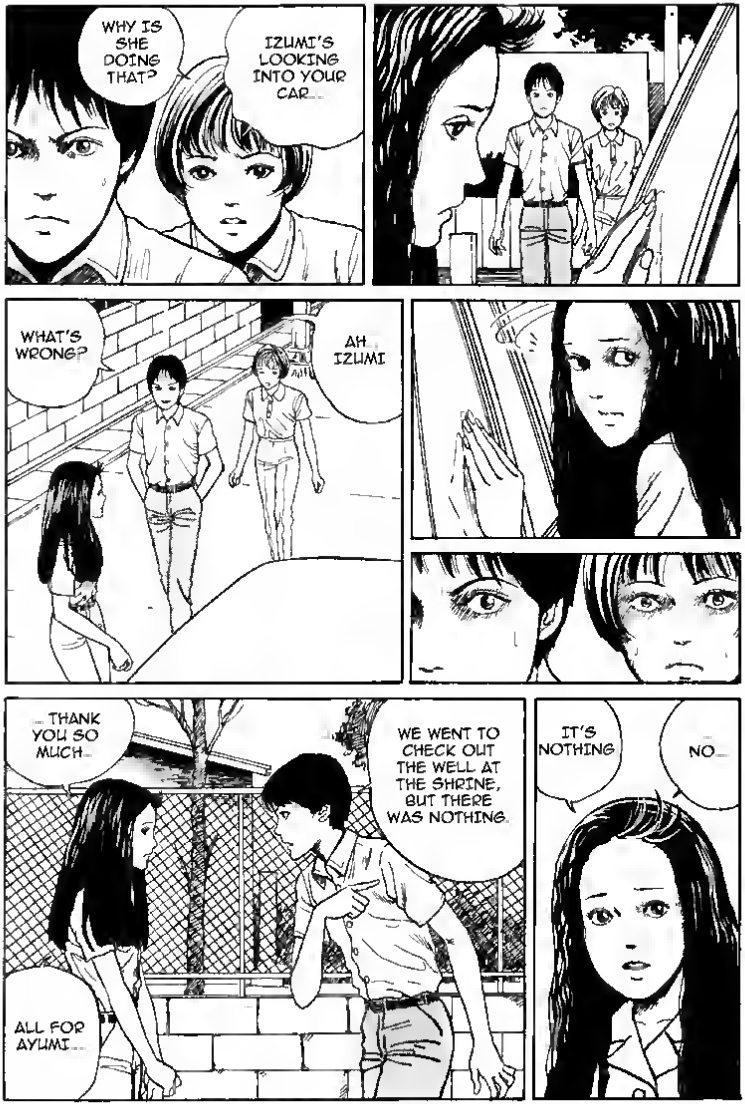
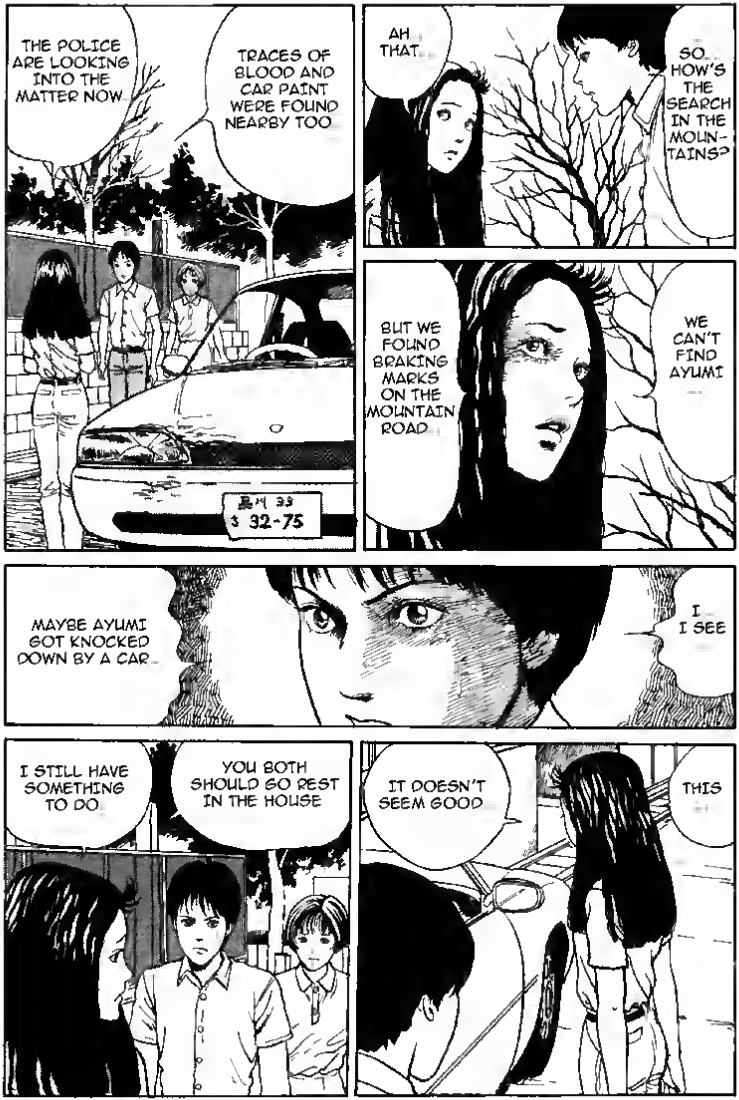
!?
IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF SOMEONE WERE TO TOUCH A DEAD BODY
THAT'S WONDERFUL!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE GUARDING HIM ALL NIGHT
HOPEFULLY, HE WILL BECOME A BEAUTIFUL GRAVESTONE BY TOMORROW
IT'S REALLY GREAT, FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO TRANSFORM SUCCESSFULLY


WHAT IS ALL OF THIS?
YES, IT WILL
HOWEVER, THE HOSPITAL'S PARKING LOT WILL SOON BE FILLED UP WITH GRAVESTONES, WON'T IT?
THAT'S RIGHT. I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE WE CAN PUT ALL THESE GRAVE-STONES.
HE TURNED INTO A POST?
HE HASN'T FULLY TRANFORMED INTO A GRAVESTONE!
AHH! DON'T TOUCH IT!

IT SEEMS LIKE CORPSES TURN INTO GRAVESTONES
THIS TOWN
IT SEEMS TO IF YOU LOOK AT THESE GRAVESTONES CAREFULLY
DOES THE LAND HERE HAVE A MAGICAL POWER THAT CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN?
IT FEELS LIKE THE PERSON OR ANIMAL'S SPIRIT IS STILL THERE

I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING JUST NOW.
AH.
A NIGHTMARE
NII-SAN ARE WE DREAMING? OR IS THIS
IF ONLY ALL OF THIS IS JUST A DREAM
IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THIS IS JUST A DREAM, NII-SAN


WHY IS SHE DOING THAT?
IZUMI'S LOOKING INTO YOUR CAR...
WHAT'S WRONG?
AH IZUMI
THANK YOU SO MUCH...
WE WENT TO CHECK OUT THE WELL AT THE SHRINE, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING.
ALL FOR AYUMI...
IT'S NOTHING
NO...


THE POLICE ARE LOOKING INTO THE MATTER NOW
TRACES OF BLOOD AND CAR PAINT WERE FOUND NEARBY TOO
AH... THAT...
SO... HOW'S THE SEARCH IN THE MOUNTAINS?
BUT WE FOUND BRAKING MARKS ON THE MOUNTAIN ROAD...
WE CAN'T FIND AYUMI...
MAYBE AYUMI GOT KNOCKED DOWN BY A CAR...
I... I SEE
I STILL HAVE SOMETHING TO DO...
YOU BOTH SHOULD GO REST IN THE HOUSE
IT DOESN'T SEEM GOOD
THIS...

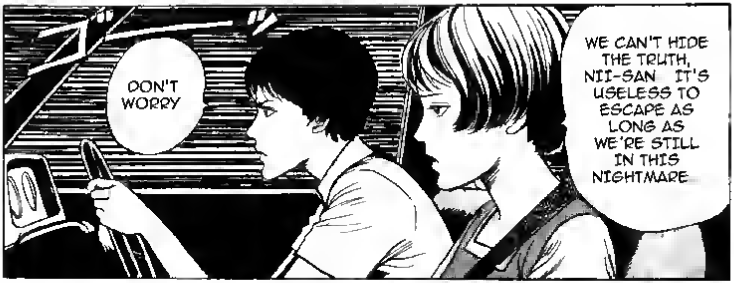
N... NII-SAN!
AH!
IZUMI WAS LOOKING AT THIS!
THERE ARE BLOOD STAINS ON THE SEATS!
THE BLOOD STAINS ARE SMALL AND UNNOTICEABLE... SHE PROBABLY DIDN'T SEE IT!
CALM DOWN!
WHAT DO WE DO, NII-SAN? IZUMI HASN'T NOTICED THIS, HAS SHE...?
SH SHIT! WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE THIS EARLIER?

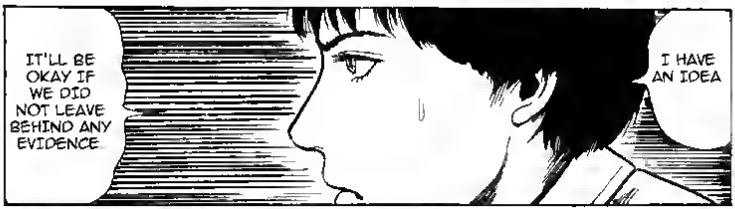
IZUMI MUST HAVE SEEN IT... WE CAN'T HIDE IT ANYMORE!
BUT THE CAR HOOD IS DAMAGED, AND THE FRONT LIGHT IS CRACKED!
BE STRONG, KAORU!
.....
WHERE COULD SHE HAVE GONE TO...
AYUMI

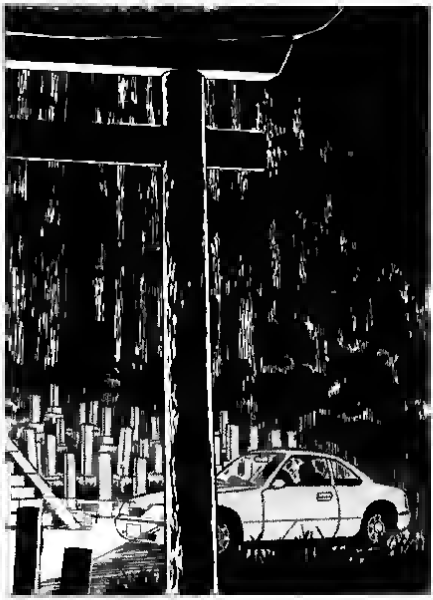
IF SHE'S DEAD...
SHE WILL NOT BECOME A GRAVESTONE... IF SOMEONE TOUCHED HER BODY AFTER SHE DIED
IT'S GOOD IF SHE'S STILL BREATHING SOMEWHERE...
IF AYUMI CAN'T BECOME A GRAVESTONE?
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...
IZUMI DON'T WORRY...
AYUMI IS STILL ALIVE SOMEWHERE...
I... HAVE SEEN A BODY WHICH WAS UNABLE TO BECOME A GRAVESTONE...
AT THE HOSPITAL PARKING LOT...
IN THIS TOWN, A CORRSE CANNOT BE TOUCHED BY SOMEONE IF IT IS...
IT'S LIKE DISTURBING AN INSECT THAT IS STILL UNDERGOING METAMORPHOSIS RESULTING IN A TERRIBLE ENDING

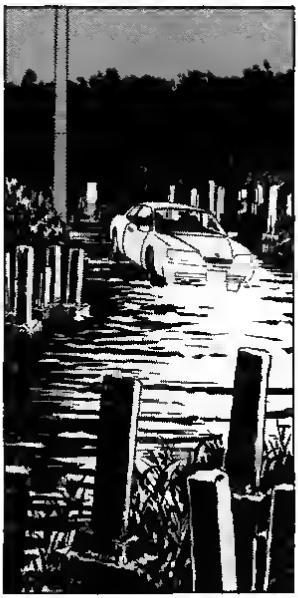
IT'S UNKNOWN WHEN OR WHO DUG THE WELL...
BUT IT'S SO DEEP THAT THE BOTTOM CANNOT BE SEEN. EVEN THE FOREFATHERS OF THIS TOWN WHO WERE UNABLE TO TRANSFORM INTO GRAVESTONES ARE ALL INSIDE
HALF OF IT HAS TURNED INTO A STONE...
IT WAS REALLY APPALLING
BUT EXPOSING IT TO ELEMENTS CAUSES IT TO ROT, AND BURNING IT WILL MAKE IT SMELL BAD. BECAUSE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE IT CREMATED, IT HAS TO BE THROWN DOWN THE WELL AT THE SHRINE
.....
DID YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS CARS?
THAT'S RIGHT, KAORU AND TSUYOSHI. DID EITHER OF YOU NOTICE ANYTHING WHEN YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY HERE?
THERE IS A VERY HIGH POSSIBILITY THAT AYUMI WAS RUN OVER BY A CAR

KAORU.
ABOUT THAT
I... IZUMI... TH... THAT...
IZUMI... I'M REALLY SORRY... WE DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS...
WE BID GOODBYE TO IZUMI AND HER PARENTS, AND LEFT
...WE CAME TO VISIT AT THE WRONG TIME... I'M AFRAID IT WILL BE TROUBLESOME FOR YOUR FAMILY IF WE CONTINUE TO STAY. WE'LL BE HEADING HOME TONIGHT...
WUUU


DON'T WORRY
WE CAN'T HIDE THE TRUTH, NII-SAN IT'S USELESS TO ESCAPE AS LONG AS WE'RE STILL IN THIS NIGHTMARE


IT'LL BE OKAY IF WE DID NOT LEAVE BEHIND ANY EVIDENCE
I HAVE AN IDEA





AH... I'VE FOUND A PLACE TO THROW THE CORPSE
INTO THE WELL
THIS IS THE SHRINE THAT WE SAW THIS AFTERNOON
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
MUCH HEAVIER WHEN I WAS DRIVING IT JUST NOW THAN IT DID BEFORE
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING THAT FEELS A LITTLE WEIRD... THE CAR FEELS...
IT DOESN'T SPEED UP IF I DON'T PRESS HARDER ON THE GAS PEDAL...
BY THROWING IT INTO THE BOTTOMLESS WELL, THE BODY WILL NEVER BE FOUND
YOU'RE SAYING...?
IT WASN'T THAT HEAVY YESTERDAY...

I HAVE NO IDEA, BUT ACCORDING TO WHAT IZUMI SAID...
THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME CHANGES TO THE CORPSE IN THE TRUNK...
WE TOUCHED THE BODY...
WHILE WE WERE TRYING TO PUT AYUMI INTO THE TRUNK...
WE HAVE TO DROP HER INTO THE WELL FAST...
QUICKLY, WHILE THERE'S NO ONE AROUND!
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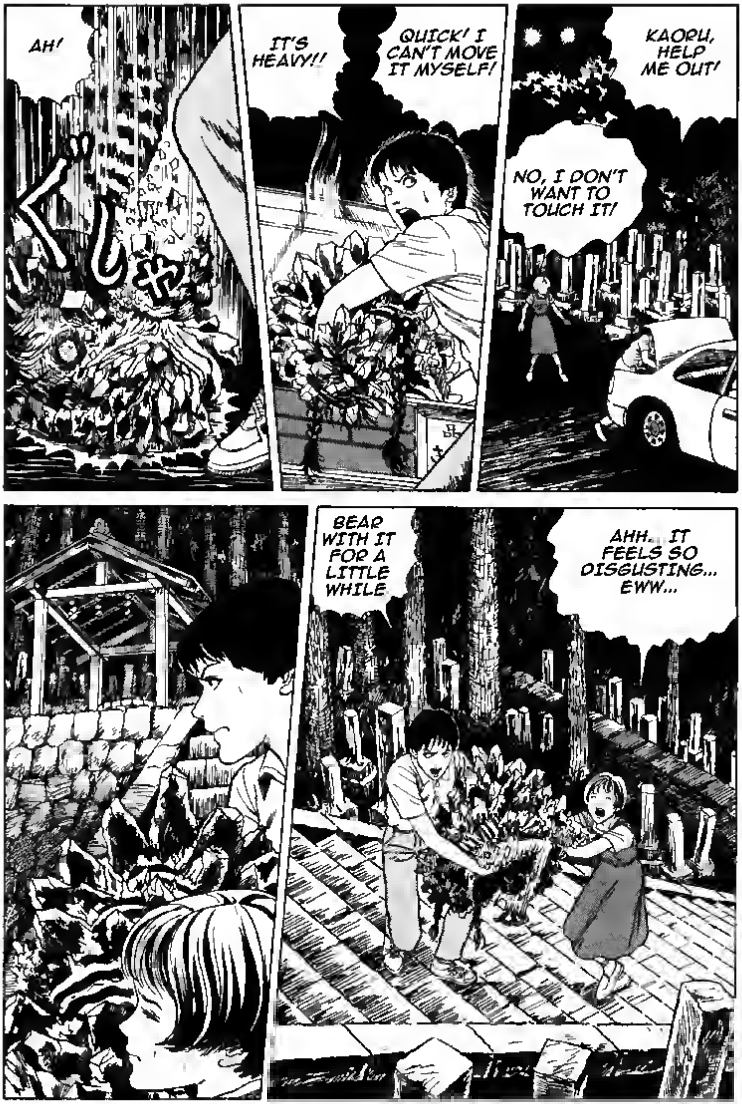
EH!

UWAH
SO THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE WHEN THEY DON'T DIE PEACEFULLY?
WHAT IS IT NII-SAN?
AHHH!
32-75


AH!
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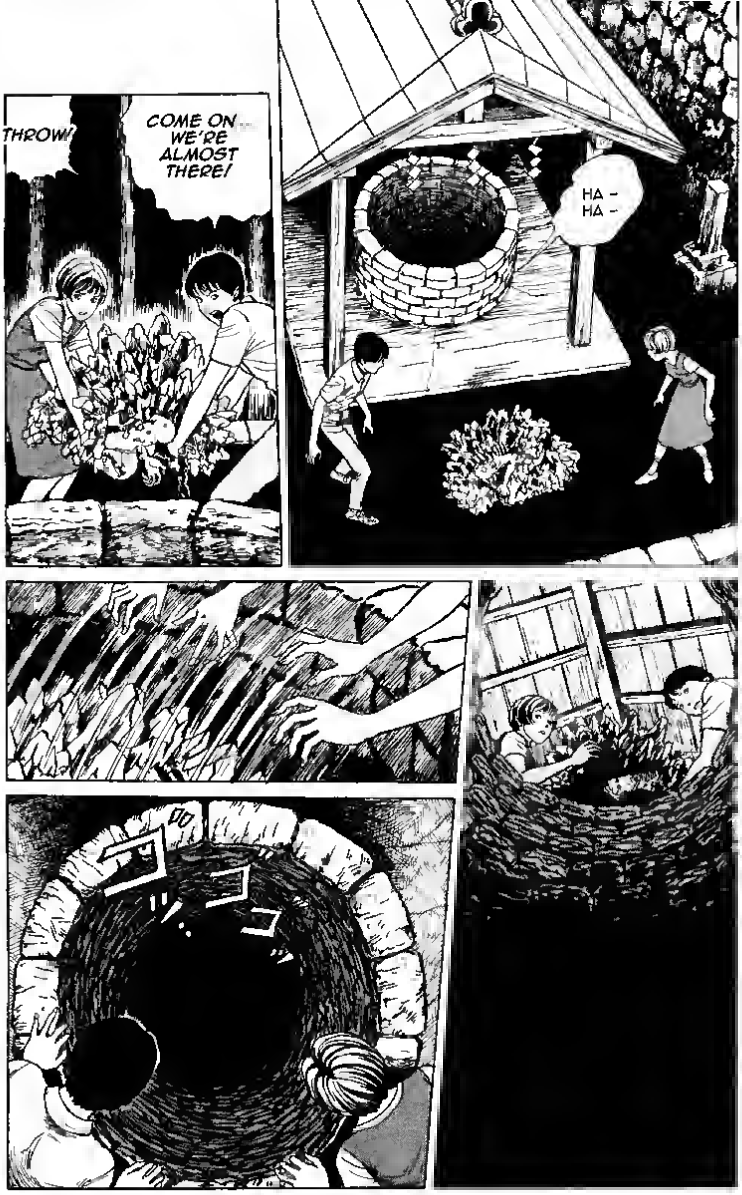
IT'S HEAVY!!
QUICK! I CAN'T MOVE IT MYSELF!
KAORU, HELP ME OUT!
NO, I DON'T WANT TO TOUCH IT!
BEAR WITH IT FOR A LITTLE WHILE
AHH... IT FEELS SO DISGUSTING... EWW...


THROW!
COME ON WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
HA - HA -
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THE NIGHTMARE HAS ENDED...
NOW IT'S ALL OVER
PHEW...
THE NIGHTMARE WILL CONTINUE
UNTIL WE DIE...
JUST TO ESCAPE FROM OUR SINS...
BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO ESCAPE FROM OUR CONSCIENCE
I BET-RAYED MY FRIEND
...IT HASN'T ENDED...

THE CORPSE REALLY LOOKED AWFUL...
BUT...
WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THIS TOWN?
I'M FEELING TERRIBLE ALSO, BUT... OUR LIVES WOULD BE OVER IF WE DIDN'T DO THIS...
KAORU I HOPE YOU UNDER-STAND ME
LET'S GO! WE'LL HEAD BACK HOME
I THINK I GOT CUT BY THE SHARP EDGES ON THE BODY...
I CUT MY HAND... IT HURTS
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
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NII-SAN, WHAT'S WRONG?
ガリッ ガリッ...
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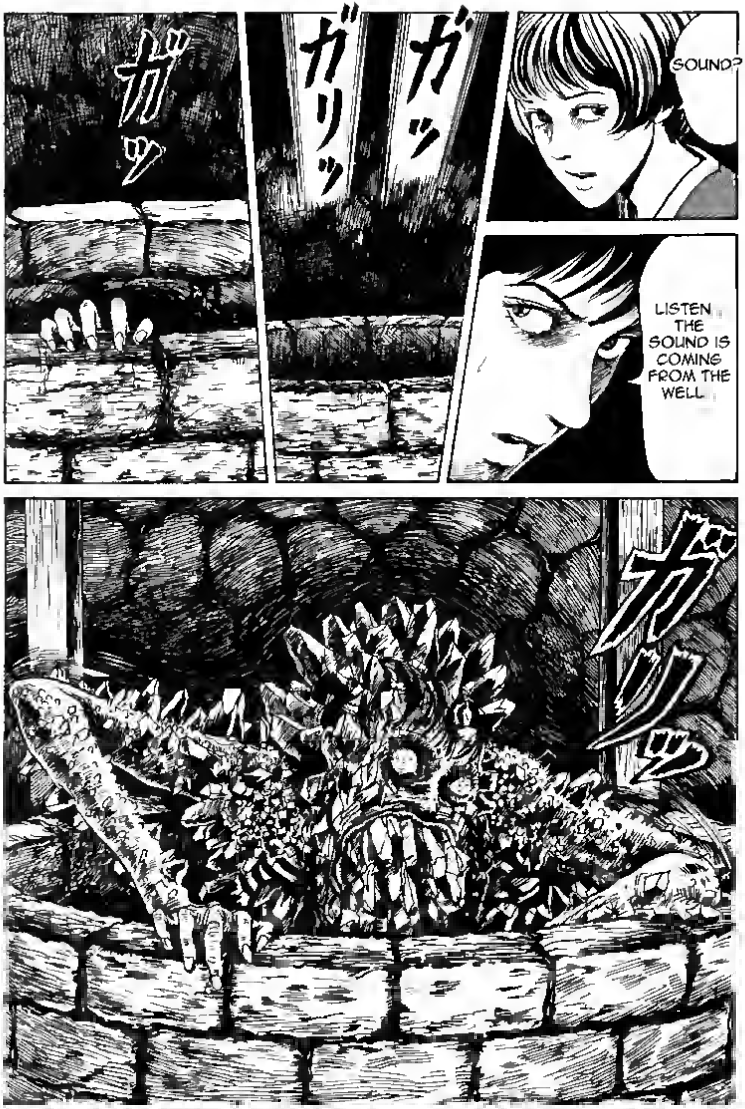
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SOUND?
LISTEN THE SOUND IS COMING FROM THE WELL
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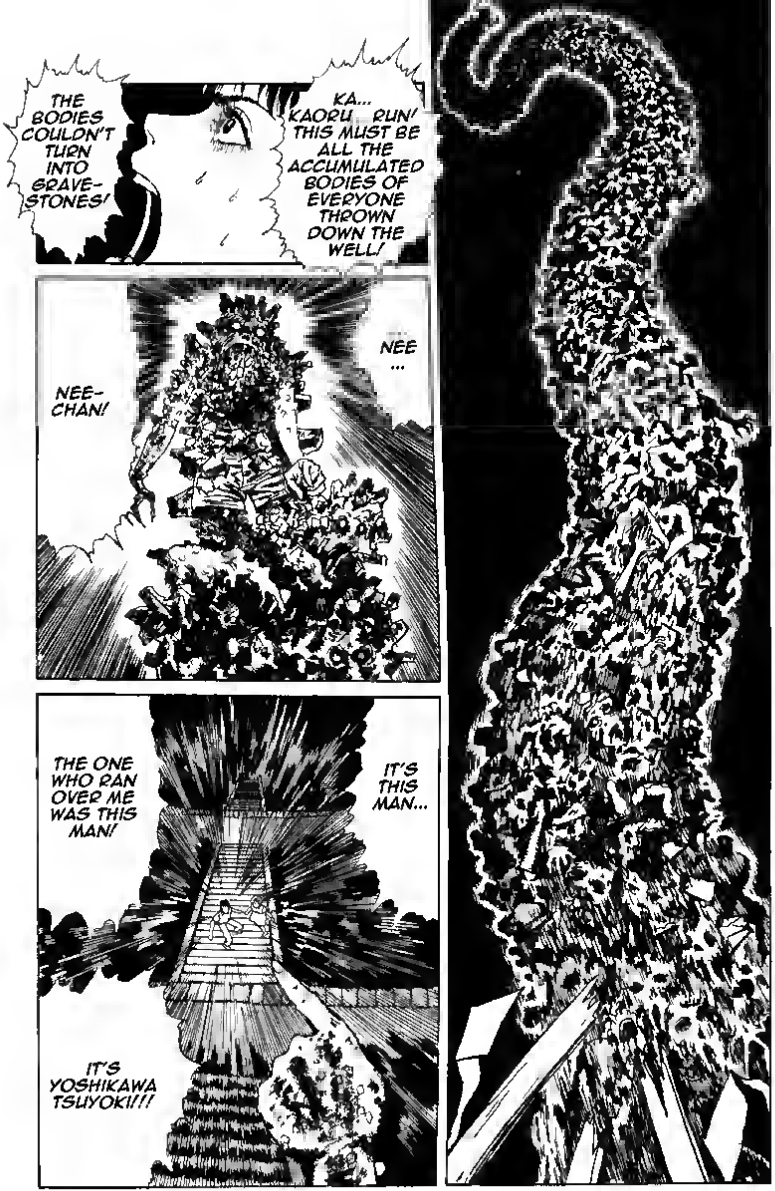
URGG GHHH
KA... KAORU!

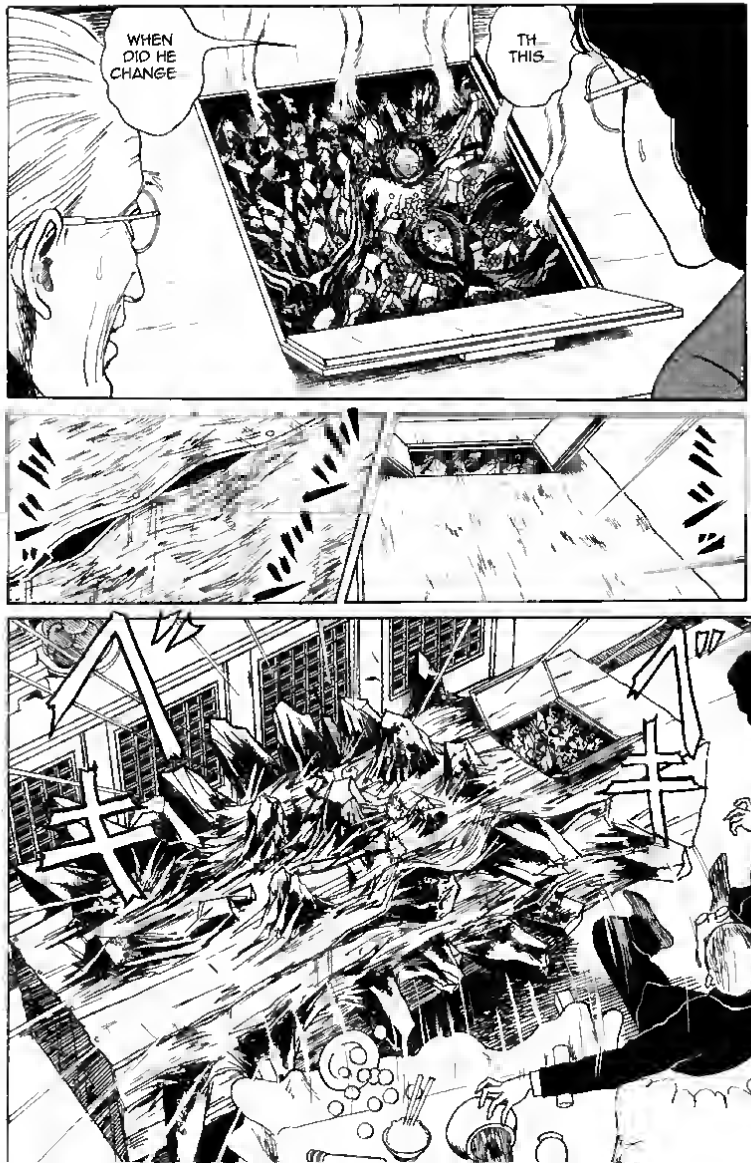

THE BODIES COULDN'T TURN INTO GRAVE-STONES!
KA... KAORU RUN! THIS MUST BE ALL THE ACCUMULATED BODIES OF EVERYONE THROWN DOWN THE WELL!
NEE-CHAN!
NEE ...
THE ONE WHO RAN OVER ME WAS THIS MAN!
IT'S THIS MAN...
IT'S YOSHIKAWA TSUYOKI!!!

AH!
NII-SAN... NII-SAN! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
SHUT UP! SHUT UP!
AH
NOTHING...
WHAT'S WRONG, NII-SAN YOU STARTED YELLING ALL OF A SUDDEN.

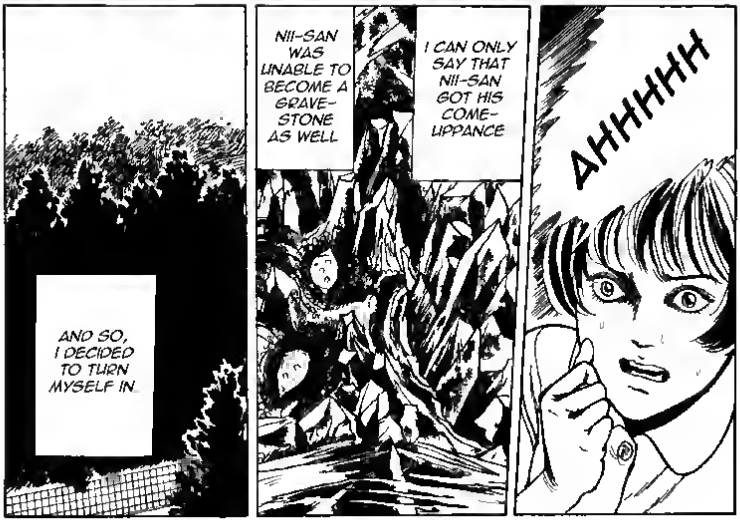
KILLING AYUMI, PUTTING AYUMI'S BODY IN THE TRUNK, CAUSING HER TO BE UNABLE TO BECOME A GRAVESTONE
AND SO, THE DAYS OF SUFFERING CAME...
THEN, IZUMI WROTE A LETTER TO ME SAYING THAT HER DAD WAS BEDRIDDEN DUE TO DEPRESSION.
THE DAY WHEN IZUMI BECOMES SUSPICIOUS OF US... AND THE POLICE COMING TO OUR HOUSE TO INVESTIGATE WILL COME SOONER OR LATER.
AND THE GUILT OF LYING TO IZUMI AND HER PARENTS.
THROWING AYUMI INTO THE WELL
IZUMI... FORGIVE ME. FORGIVE ME...
AND THE FEAR THAT THE TRUTH WILL BE REVEALED ONE DAY.

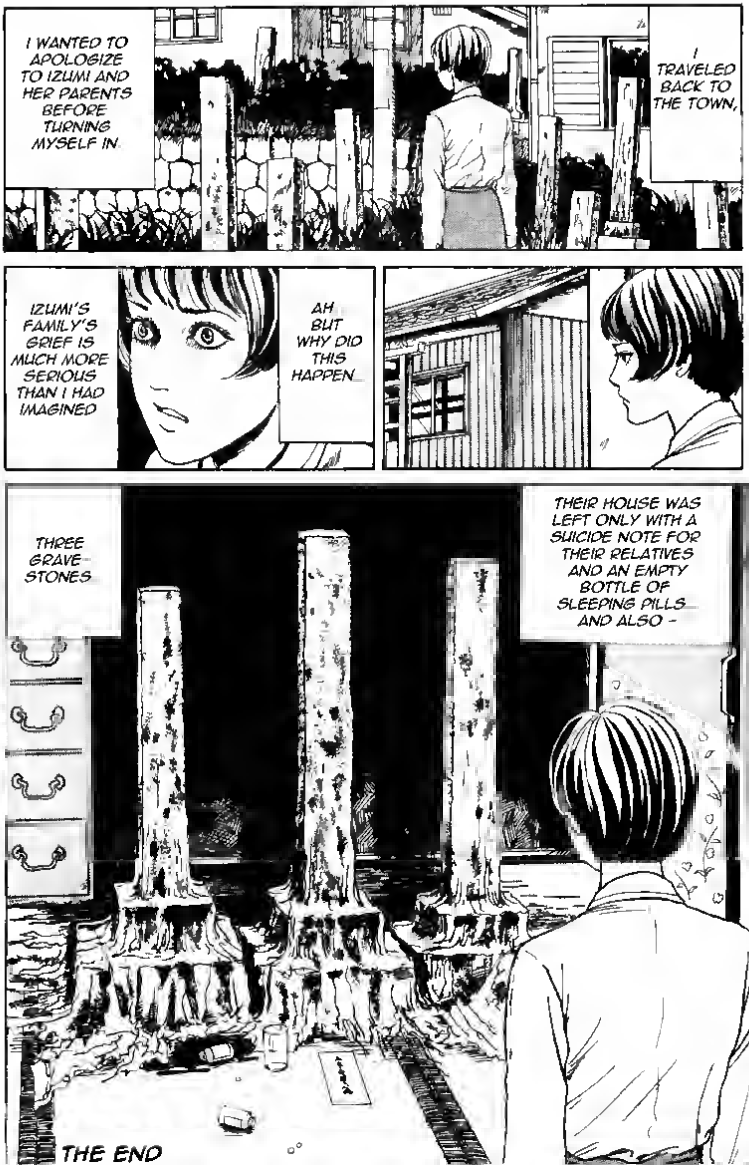
THE INJURY I GOT WHILE VISITING IZUMI IS STILL HURTING.
WHAT HAPPENED, TSUYOSHI?
DAMN! IT HURTS!
DAMN ...
IT'S ALL INFECTED, ISN'T IT?
AH
WHERE IS IT? LET ME HAVE A LOOK
HE SUFFERED UNTIL THE VERY END.
FINALLY, HE WAS HOSPI-TALIZED
IT'S SO PAIN-FUL!
NII-SAN'S INFECTED HAND COULDN T BE HEALED IT GOT WORSE AND WORSE
杉山外科

POOR THING
HE DIED SO YOUNG
AND DIED
忌中
PLEASE DO HAVE A LOOK
LET ME TAKE ONE LAST LOOK AT TSUYOSHI
UNCLE SHIMADA
UGH!
OH LOOKING GOOD

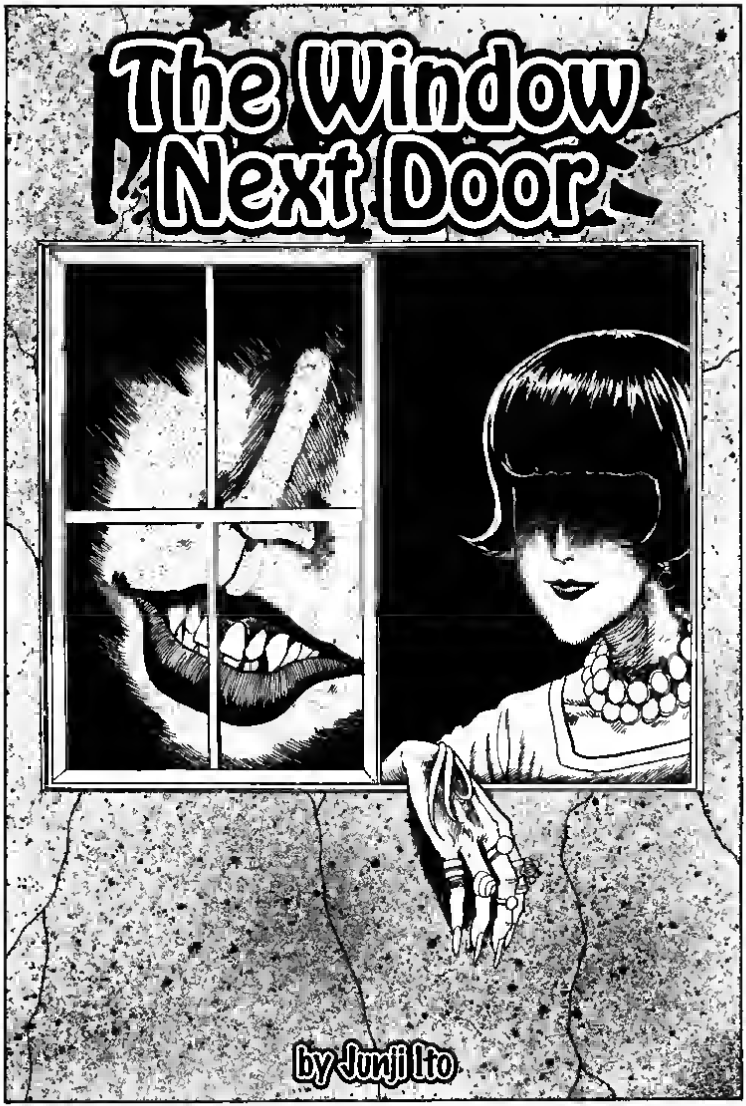

WHEN DID HE CHANGE...
TH... THIS...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
WAHHH!!


AND SO, I DECIDED TO TURN MYSELF IN.
NII-SAN WAS UNABLE TO BECOME A GRAVE-STONE AS WELL
I CAN ONLY SAY THAT NII-SAN GOT HIS COME-UPPANCE
AHHHHH


I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO IZUMI AND HER PARENTS BEFORE TURNING MYSELF IN.
I TRAVELED BACK TO THE TOWN.
IZUMI'S FAMILY'S GRIEF IS MUCH MORE SERIOUS THAN I HAD IMAGINED
AH... BUT WHY DID THIS HAPPEN...
THREE GRAVE-STONES
THEIR HOUSE WAS LEFT ONLY WITH A SUICIDE NOTE FOR THEIR RELATIVES AND AN EMPTY BOTTLE OF SLEEPING PILLS... AND ALSO -
THE END

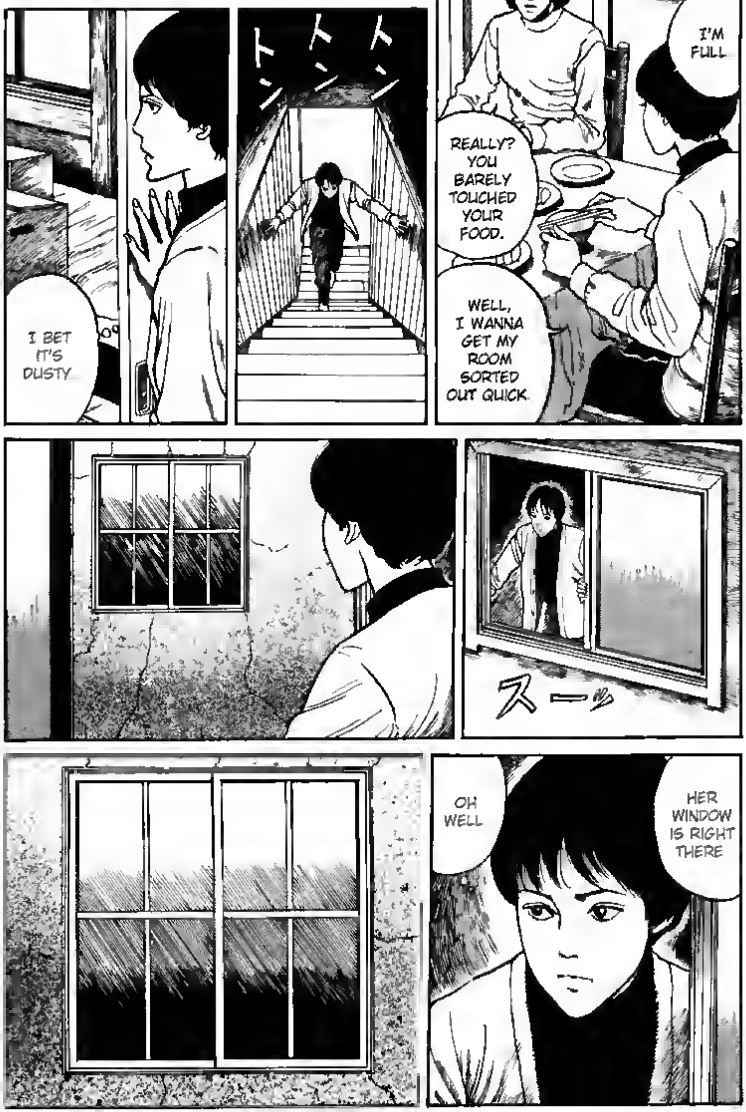
TRANSLATED BY DANIEL LAU
EDITED BY NAEREID
DANIEL-LAU.COM



The three of us moved here when my dad bought the new house.
It had been lived in, but it was nice and cheap. Mom and I used to wonder if it was haunted.
But it was a small house, with only one room on the second floor, so the price was about right.
HIROSHI? HURRY UP. YOU'RE COMING TO GREET THE NEIGHBOURS.
WHAT? AW, MAN.
FIRST, THE HOUSE ON THE RIGHT.
LOVELY AROUND HERE SO GREEN, TOO!

IT'S ONLY GOT ONE WINDOW THERE.
I CHECKED THE OTHER SIDE BEFORE.
UM, IT'S KIND OF A STRANGE HOUSE, ISN'T IT?
HOW?
HIROSHI! I DO WISH YOU'D STOP PRYING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S AFFAIRS
YES?
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU. WE'RE THE SAKAGUCHIS, JUST MOVED IN NEXT DOOR.
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS GIFT, AND COME BY ANYTIME IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.
ピンポーン
WELL, LET'S MOVE ONTO SOMEONE ELSE FOR NOW.
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE OUT.

HM ... I DON'T KNOW. THAT HOUSE IS ALWAYS SHUT UP.
BY THE WAY, THE NUMAGE HOUSE NEXT TO US - DO THEY WORK DURING THE DAY?
OH, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE.
THEY DON'T SEEM TO GET OUT MUCH.
I'VE BEEN HERE TEN YEARS AND I'VE NEVER ONCE SEEN THEIR FACE.
BUT THEN AT NIGHT, WE OFTEN SEE A FIGURE MOVING ABOUT ON THE SECOND FLOOR.
SHE'S APPARENTLY KIND OF STRANGE, AND DOESN'T WANT TO SHOW HER FACE IN PUBLIC.
BUT THERE'S BEEN A RUMOR LATELY THAT IT'S A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN LIVING THERE
I KEEP RINGING THE DOORBELL, BUT NO-ONE COMES.
HUH. SO YOU STILL HAVEN'T MET WHO LIVES THERE?
THAT'S KIND OF WEIRD.

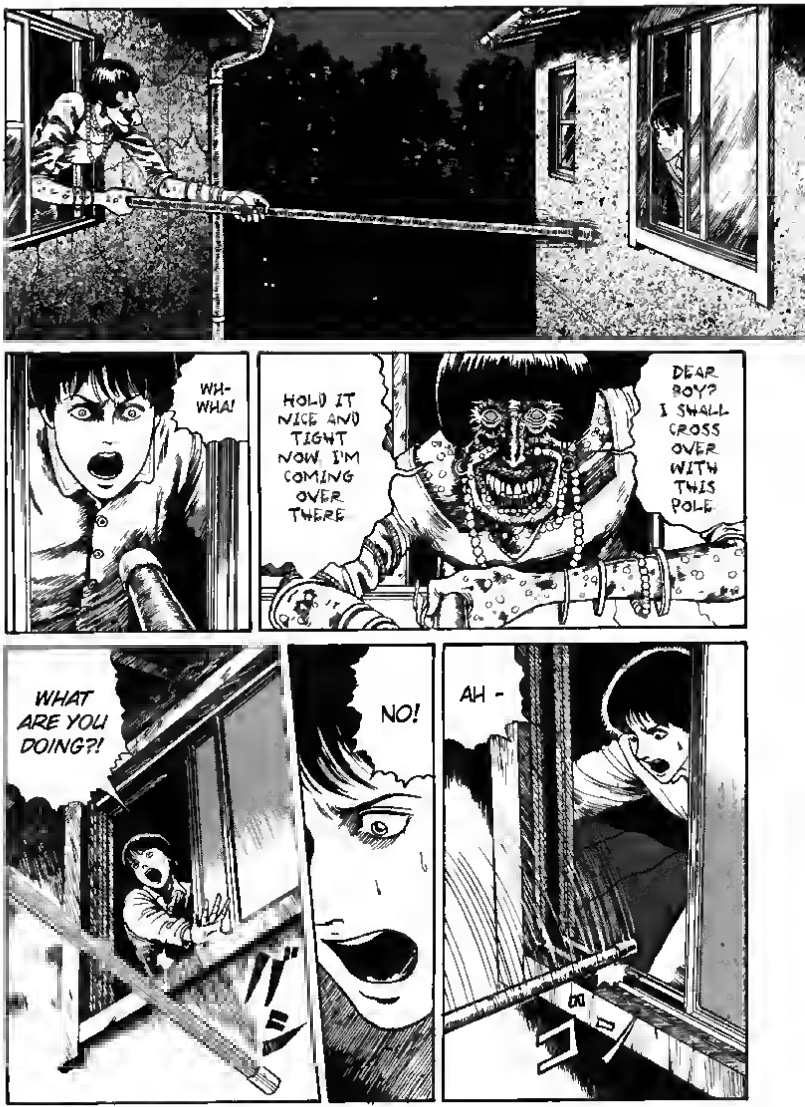

I'M FULL
REALLY? YOU BARELY TOUCHED YOUR FOOD.
WELL, I WANNA GET MY ROOM SORTED OUT QUICK.
トン トン トン
I BET IT'S DUSTY...
スーッ
HER WINDOW IS RIGHT THERE
OH WELL

It was that night.
GOOD EVENING, DEAR BOY
WERE YOU RESTING?
HOW ARE YOU THIS NIGHT?
DEAR BOY
DEAR BOY
HUH?
DEAR BOY
...
DEAR BOY
THE HELL?
スー

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW HOME?
DEAR BOY...
ARE YOU WELL THIS NIGHT?
DEAR BOY.

DEAR BOY... WHY NOT COME OVER AND PLAY?
THE DOOR'S OPEN. I'LL BE WAITING.
DEAR BOY... DEAR BOY...
WHA... WHAT WAS THAT
ピシャ
It was so vivid, for a dream. But the next day, I knew it couldn't be real.
It was just too strange to be real.
And again, the next night ...
Had she really left the door open?
I didn't want to know.

OH DEAR BOY...
HOW IS THE NIGHT TREATING YOU, DEAR BOY.
ARE YOU RESTING?
LET ME SEE YOUR FACE, DEAR BOY.
YOU DIDN'T COME VISIT ME
AND I'D PREPARED ALL THESE SNACKS AND GOODIES
MAY I VISIT YOU, THEN? OH HO HO HO
WELL, HERE I COME
!
...WHAT WAS THAT?!
スーッ

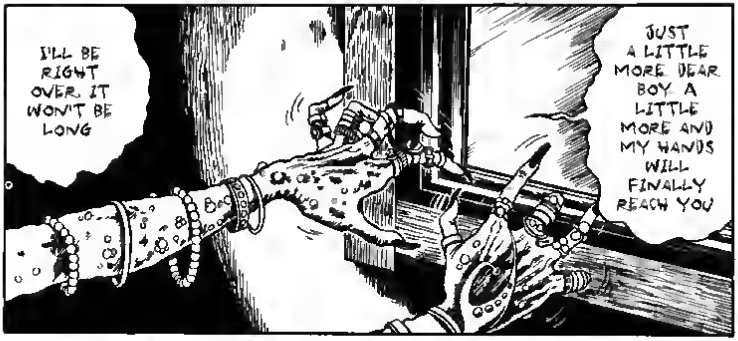

WH-WHA!
HOLD IT NICE AND TIGHT NOW. I'M COMING OVER THERE
DEAR BOY? I SHALL CROSS OVER WITH THIS POLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
NO!
AH -

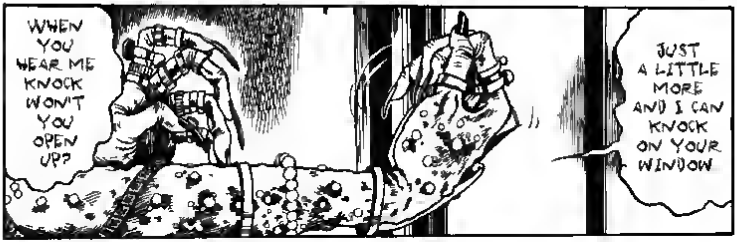
ピシッ
ガチャ
ゴン
OW!
WAKE UP!
MUM! DAD!
WHAT IS IT?
ドドド
HIROSHI? WHAT HAPPENED?!
SHE TRIED TO COME INTO MY ROOM THROUGH THE WINDOW! COME ON, HURRY!
I CAN'T SLEEP UP THERE ANYMORE.
THE OLD LADY NEXT DOOR'S A GODDAMN FREAK!

YOU SAID THE POLE FELL? WHERE?
WHAT? THERE'S NO-ONE THERE.
SHE TRIED TO COME OVER HERE. THE POLE, SHE MUSTA CLEANED IT UP HERSELF!
IT'S TRUE! SHE'S FUCKIN' WEIRD!
REALLY? YOU TOO, NOW?
DEAR .. IF HIROSHI WASN'T DREAMING, WE SHOULD LET THE POLICE KNOW ABOUT THIS
IT FITS WITH ALL THE RUMORS WE'VE HEARD, TOO.
HIROSHI - YOU SURE IT WASN'T A DREAM?
NO! IT WAS REAL!

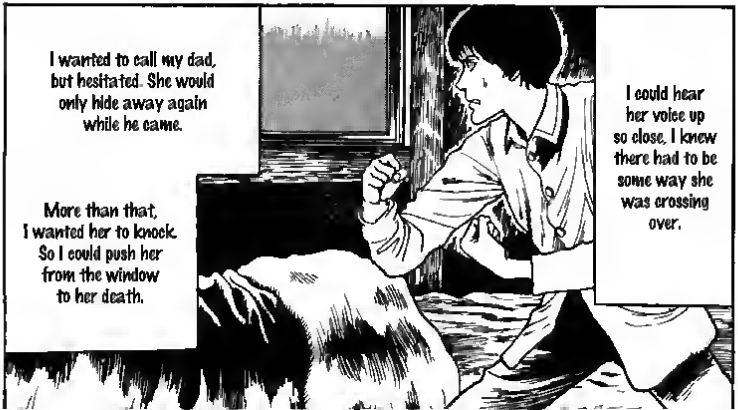
NO!
COME ON, HIROSHI IT WAS A DREAM AFTER ALL, WASN'T IT?
But the woman didn't show up
After a long discussion, we decided that my parents would take the room on the second floor for a while.
I'LL DO IT
...YEAH, OKAY
WHAT DO YOU SAY, GIVE YOUR OLD ROOM A SHOT? IT'S QUIETER UP ON THE SECOND FLOOR, YOU CAN STUDY EASIER.
But things were so quiet for so long, that even I started to suspect whether it had ever really happened.
NO WAY THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D START COMING AGAIN FROM TONIGHT

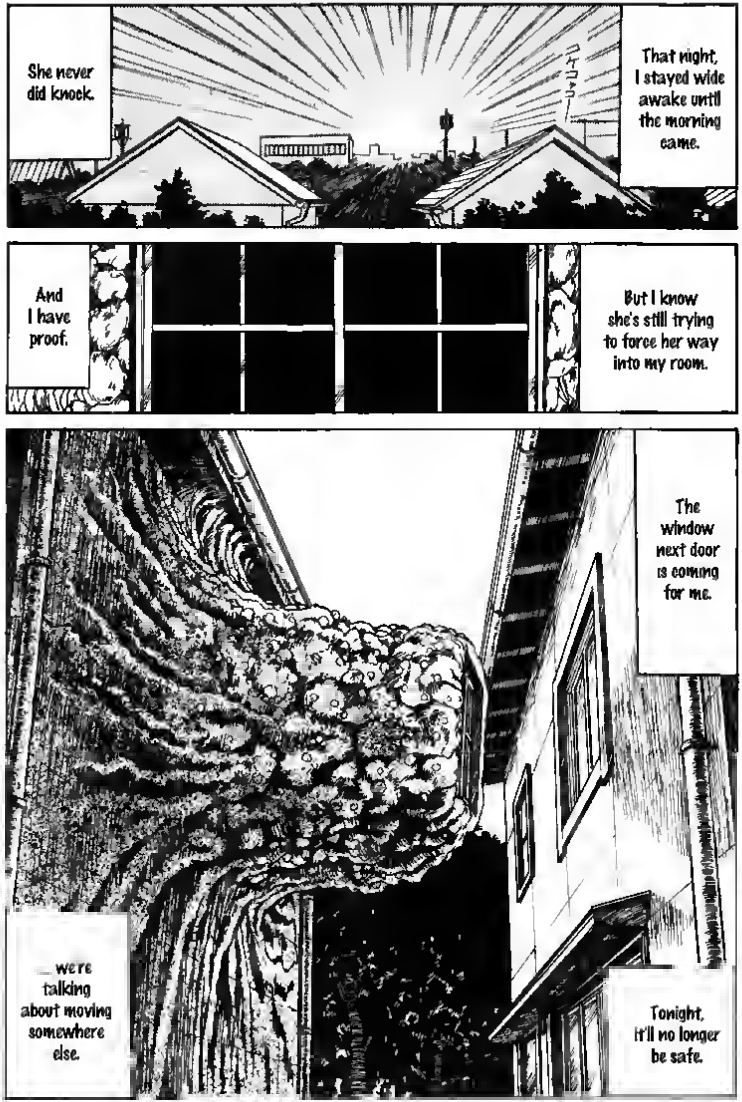
DEAR BOY
DEAR BOY
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
IT'S BEEN SO LONG
GOD DAMN IT
HAVE I WOKEN YOU?
DEAR BOY
PLEASE WAIT RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE I'M COMING TO SEE YOU
ARE YOU AWAKE, DEAR BOY? LET ME SEE YOUR FACE


I'LL BE RIGHT OVER. IT WON'T BE LONG
JUST A LITTLE MORE DEAR BOY A LITTLE MORE AND MY HANDS WILL FINALLY REACH YOU


WHEN YOU HEAR ME KNOCK WON'T YOU OPEN UP?
JUST A LITTLE MORE AND I CAN KNOCK ON YOUR WINDOW

BUT PLEASE DO WAIT IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL I'LL BE THERE
AH! OH DEAR. IT'S STILL TOO FAR. I CAN'T REACH

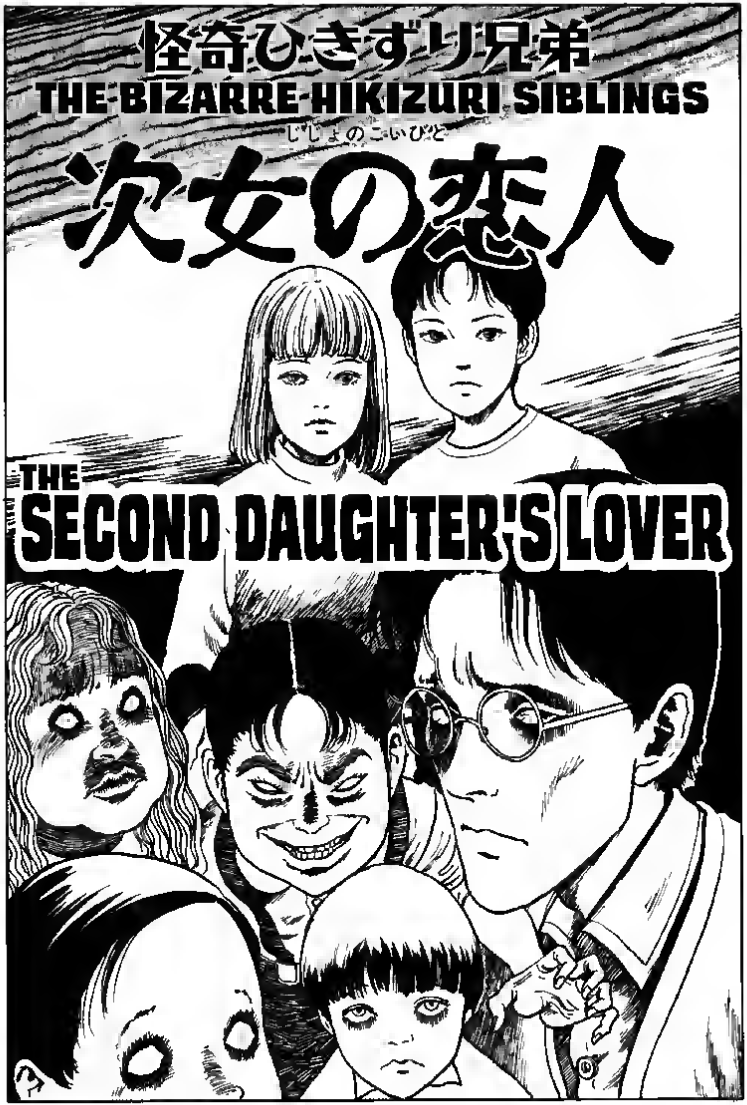

I wanted to call my dad, but hesitated. She would only hide away again while he came.
More than that, I wanted her to knock. So I could push her from the window to her death.
I could hear her voice up so close. I knew there had to be some way she was crossing over.


She never did knock.
コケコケコ
That night, I stayed wide awake until the morning came.
And I have proof.
But I know she's still trying to force her way into my room.
The window next door is coming for me.
...were talking about moving somewhere else.
Tonight, it'll no longer be safe.

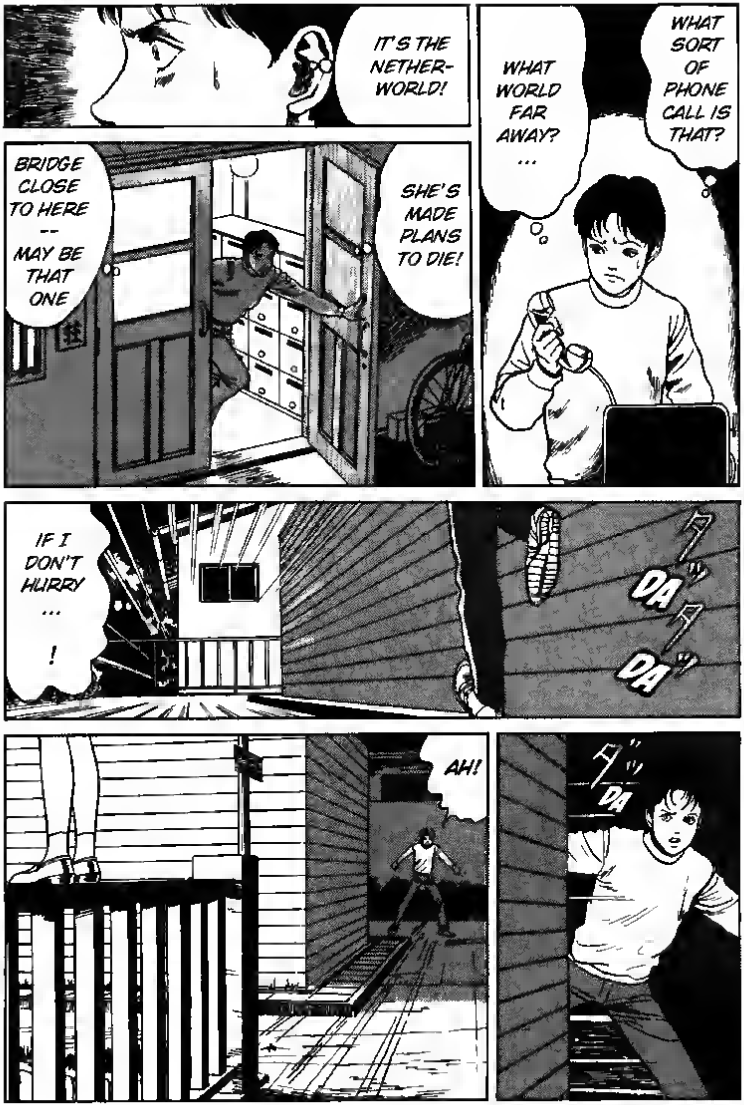
怪奇ひきずり兄弟
THE BIZARRE HIKIZURI SIBLINGS

次女の恋人
じじょのこいびと

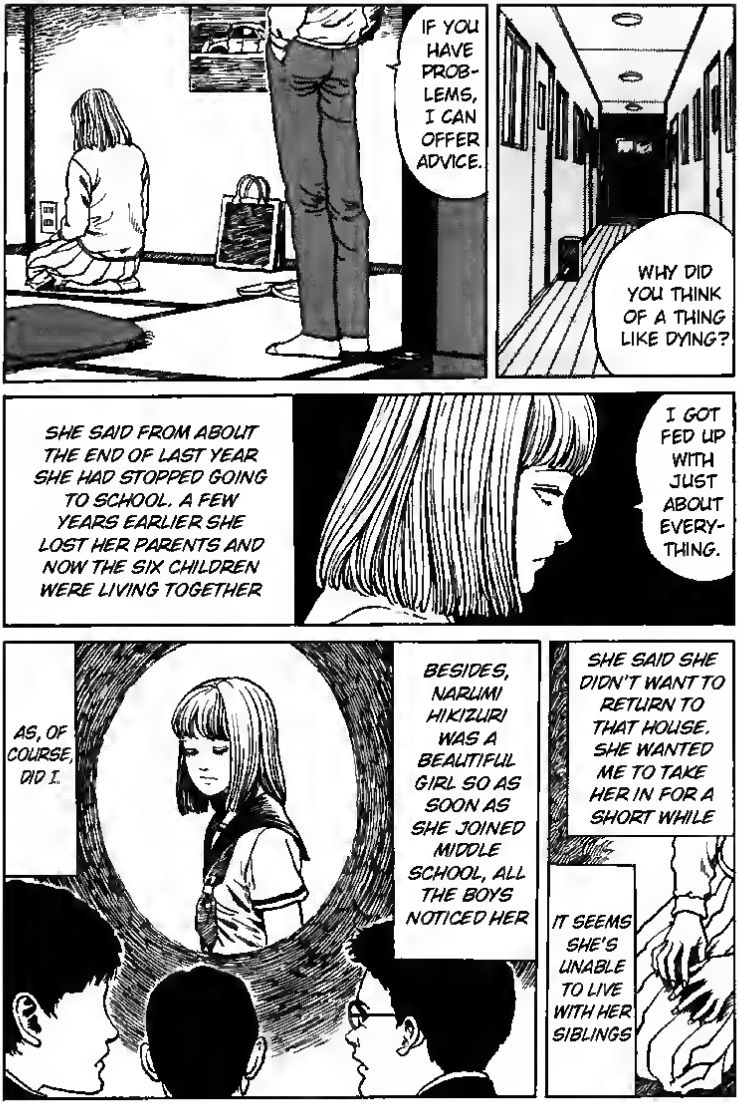
THE SECOND DAUGHTER'S LOVER



IT BEGAN WITH A PHONE CALL I RECEIVED AT THE BOARDING HOUSE
PRIIING
MR KOTANI, YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL.
HELLO, THIS IS KOTANI.
AH, THANK YOU.
UH ... OHH, LITTLE NARUMI! I REMEMBER. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
SENPAI ... IT'S ME... DO YOU REMEMBER ME? ... IT'S NARUMI
IN JUNIOR HIGH, I WAS A FIRST YEAR WHEN YOU WERE IN YEAR THREE
RIGHT NOW I'M BY THE BRIDGE CLOSE TO YOUR LODGE ...
SENPAI, FAREWELL ... FROM HERE I GO TO A WORLD FAR, FAR AWAY ... DON'T FORGET ME, OKAY?
ガチャッ
KLIK


IT'S THE NETHER-WORLD!
WHAT SORT OF PHONE CALL IS THAT?
WHAT WORLD FAR AWAY? ...
SHE'S MADE PLANS TO DIE!
BRIDGE CLOSE TO HERE -- MAY BE THAT ONE
IF I DON'T HURRY ... !
DA
DA
AH!
DA

NARUMI!
LET ME DIE!
LET GO!
WAIT! DON'T DO ANYTHING HASTY!

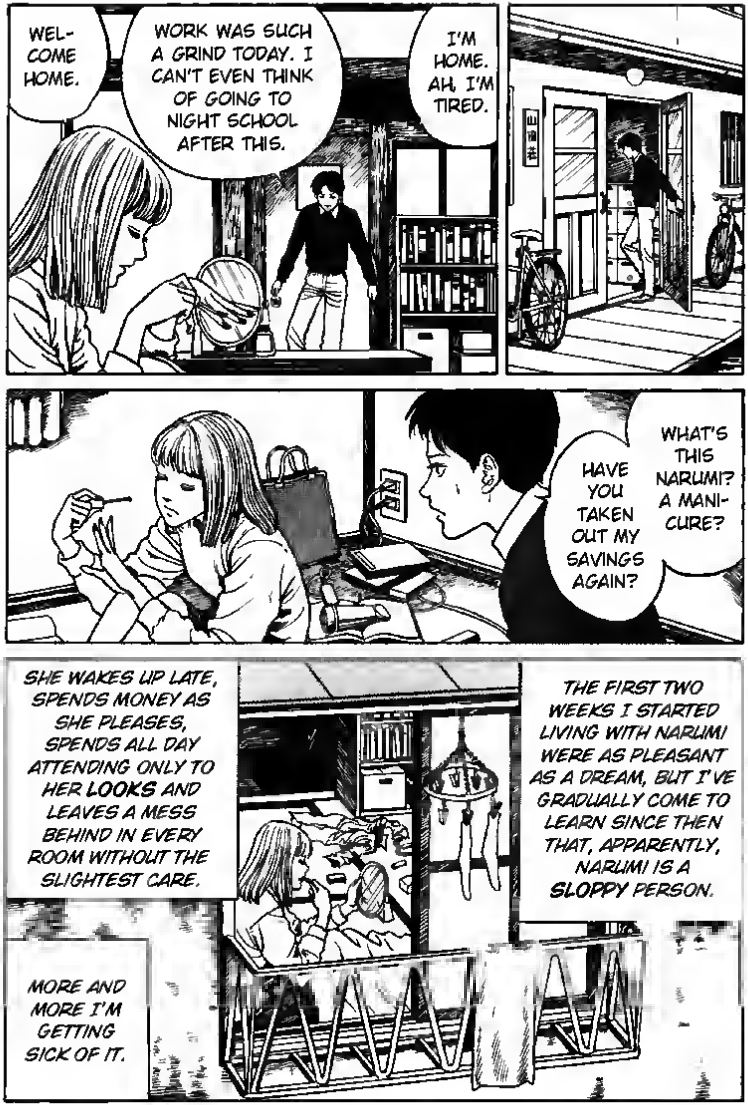

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, I CAN OFFER ADVICE.
WHY DID YOU THINK OF A THING LIKE DYING?
I GOT FED UP WITH JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING.
SHE SAID FROM ABOUT THE END OF LAST YEAR SHE HAD STOPPED GOING TO SCHOOL. A FEW YEARS EARLIER SHE LOST HER PARENTS AND NOW THE SIX CHILDREN WERE LIVING TOGETHER
SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T WANT TO RETURN TO THAT HOUSE. SHE WANTED ME TO TAKE HER IN FOR A SHORT WHILE
IT SEEMS SHE'S UNABLE TO LIVE WITH HER SIBLINGS
BESIDES, NARUMI HIKIZURI WAS A BEAUTIFUL GIRL SO AS SOON AS SHE JOINED MIDDLE SCHOOL, ALL THE BOYS NOTICED HER
AS, OF COURSE, DID I.

SHE JUST WANTS TO MAKE ME WORRY. ME, THE ELDER BROTHER. ME, THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD!
BASICALLY, SHE'S JUST BEING SELFISH.

IT'S ALREADY A WEEK NARUMI'S NOT COME HOME.

WHERE IN THE WORLD DID SHE WANDER OFF TO?

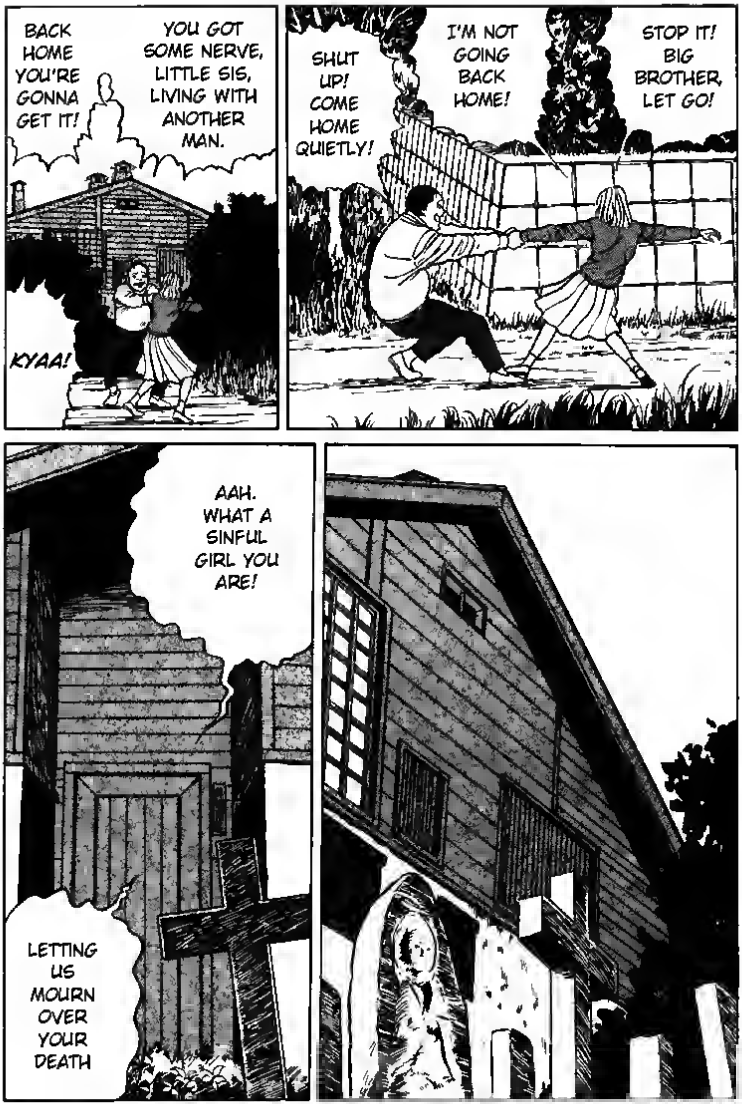
THE NERVE OF HER. THINKS SHE CAN STAY OUT ALL NIGHT, WHEN SHE'S YOUNGER THAN ME!
THAT'S RIGHT, BIG BROTHER, IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY!
ELDEST DAUGHTER KINAKO AGE 18
ELDEST SON KAZUYA HIKIZURI AGE 19
I'LL HAVE ANOTHER WORD WITH HER.
KE HE HE
3RD SON HITOSHI AGE 10
3RD DAUGHTER MISAKO AGE 8
Y-YES, THAT'S RIGHT. SHE'S WRONG TO DO THAT.
SHE'S ONLY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL BUT SHE STAYS OUT OVERNIGHT ... ISN'T THAT RIGHT, HITOSHI AND MISAKO?
2ND SON SHIGOROU AGE 16
YOU SAID IT BIG BRO AND BIG SIS
HURRY UP AND FIND HER AND BRING NARUMI BACK!
IN ANY CASE ...


WEL-COME HOME.
WORK WAS SUCH A GRIND TODAY. I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF GOING TO NIGHT SCHOOL AFTER THIS.
I'M HOME. AH, I'M TIRED.
WHAT'S THIS NARUMI? A MANI-CURE?
HAVE YOU TAKEN OUT MY SAVINGS AGAIN?
SHE WAKES UP LATE, SPENDS MONEY AS SHE PLEASES, SPENDS ALL DAY ATTENDING ONLY TO HER LOOKS AND LEAVES A MESS BEHIND IN EVERY ROOM WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST CARE.
THE FIRST TWO WEEKS I STARTED LIVING WITH NARUMI WERE AS PLEASANT AS A DREAM, BUT I'VE GRADUALLY COME TO LEARN SINCE THEN THAT, APPARENTLY, NARUMI IS A SLOPPY PERSON.
MORE AND MORE I'M GETTING SICK OF IT.

NARUMI-- WE NEED TO TALK. DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME YOU WENT HOME?
SINCE I'M PUTTING MYSELF THROUGH SCHOOL I CAN'T AFFORD TO SUPPORT YOU TOO.
AND SURELY YOUR SIBLINGS ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU. SO ... PLEASE LEAVE.
THOSE PEOPLE AREN'T WORRIED ABOUT ME.
THEY'RE ONLY JEALOUS OF ME ... ESPECIALLY KINAKO.
OOH HUU HUU
-HIC- -HIC-
YOU WANT ME TO GO BACK TO THAT HOUSE? YOU'VE COME TO HATE ME ... YOU HATE ME, DON'T YOU?
NARUMI, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
FINE THEN ... I'LL JUST DIE.
I'LL DIE RIGHT NOW.

NARUMI
...
I GET IT.
I GET IT, ALRIGHT?
I WON'T TELL YOU TO LEAVE.
IF YOU HATE ME THERE'S NO REASON TO GO ON LIVING SO LET ME DIE
LET GO! LET GO OF ME!
S-STOP THIS NONSENSE! WHAT GOOD WOULD SUICIDE DO?
YOU MEAN IT?
REALLY?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH ALREADY
BUT IF I TELL HER TO GET OUT SHE'LL TALK ABOUT DYING AGAIN. SO IT DRAGGED ON, MY LIVING WITH NARUMI
I LIKE YOU
...
I REALLY LIKE YOU. SO NOW PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT AGAIN ABOUT DYING.
BUT I'M RIGHT. YOU MUST HATE ME.

DI DEE
DA LI
DA DEE
LA DI
SUCH NICE WEA-THER
LIVING ALL CARE-FREE AT THAT PLACE
FINALLY I'VE FOUND HER, THAT NARUMI
NARUMI WASN'T IN THE ROOM
THAT NIGHT, WHEN I CAME HOME FROM CLASSES


BACK HOME YOU'RE GONNA GET IT!
YOU GOT SOME NERVE, LITTLE SIS, LIVING WITH ANOTHER MAN.
KYAA!
SHUT UP! COME HOME QUIETLY!
I'M NOT GOING BACK HOME!
STOP IT! BIG BROTHER, LET GO!
AAH. WHAT A SINFUL GIRL YOU ARE!
LETTING US MOURN OVER YOUR DEATH

I CAN HEAR IT. THEIR CRYING VOICES ECHOING THROUGHOUT THE DREARY WASTELAND.
MOM AND DAD MUST BE WEEPING FROM THE AFTERLIFE.
THEY ARE CRYING OVER NARUMI'S INFIDELITY.
KE HE HE
Y-YES. THAT'S RIGHT.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, HITOSHI AND MISAKO?
REALLY, IF I HADN'T FOUND YOU, YOU'D HAVE KEPT ON LIVING WITH THAT MAN, I SHUDDER TO THINK

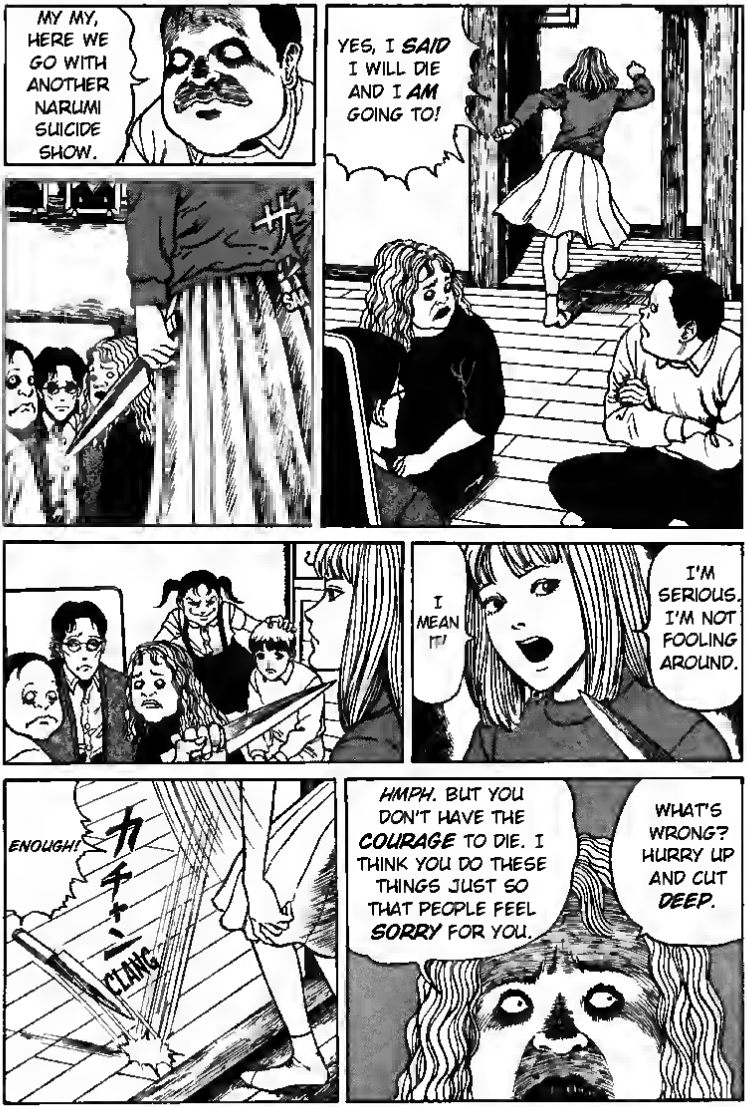
ドスン
BAM
KE HE HE
じろっ
STARE
WHAT'S THIS, HITOSHI? ARE YOU JUST GOING ALONG WITH THEM?
EH HE HE
EH ...
HOP
ぴょん
YOU'RE JUST A KID SO STAY OUT OF IT!
SHUT UP!
NARUMI'S BOY CRAZY! BOY CRAZY! KEHEHE
NARUMI ... AREN'T YOU STILL A KID AS WELL?
KEHEHE BOY CRAZY! BOY CRAZY!

YOU SEE, NARUMI, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT LIKE THAT.
THAT'S WHAT SOCIETY EXPECTS FROM YOU.
HO-NE-ST-LY!
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE STAYING WITH A MAN AT ONLY 14 YEARS OLD.
WHEN WILL MY OLDER SISTER GO TO LIVE WITH SOMEONE? YOU'VE NEVER MENTIONED ANYONE.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
HMPH. WHAT YOU MEAN, KINAKO, IS YOU'RE ANNOYED YOUR LITTLE SISTER HAS SURPASSED YOU.
FAMILY QUARRELS ARE NOT THE ISSUE HERE.
THE ISSUE IS, WHAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP DOES NARUMI HAVE WITH THAT MAN?
HEY KINAKO, CALM DOWN!
NARUMI! WHY YOU ...

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY BRIGHT IDEAS?
WE CAN'T LET HIM JUST GET AWAY WITH IT ...
WHAT DO WE DO WITH THIS MAN WHO SEDUCED NARUMI?
OR RATHER, WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT HIM?
HOW ABOUT IF WE HAVE A HORSE DRAG HIM, BRO-THER?
BIG BROTHER, WHAT IF WE RIP HIS HEAD FROM HIS BODY? HOW ABOUT THAT?
OH, I SEE... BUT IF WE'RE USING HORSES WHY NOT HAVE TWO OF THEM DRAG HIM AND SPLIT HIM AT THE CROTCH?
FIRSTLY, HOW WILL WE EVEN ACQUIRE A HORSE? CAN WE TRY MORE PRACTICAL IDEAS, PLEASE?

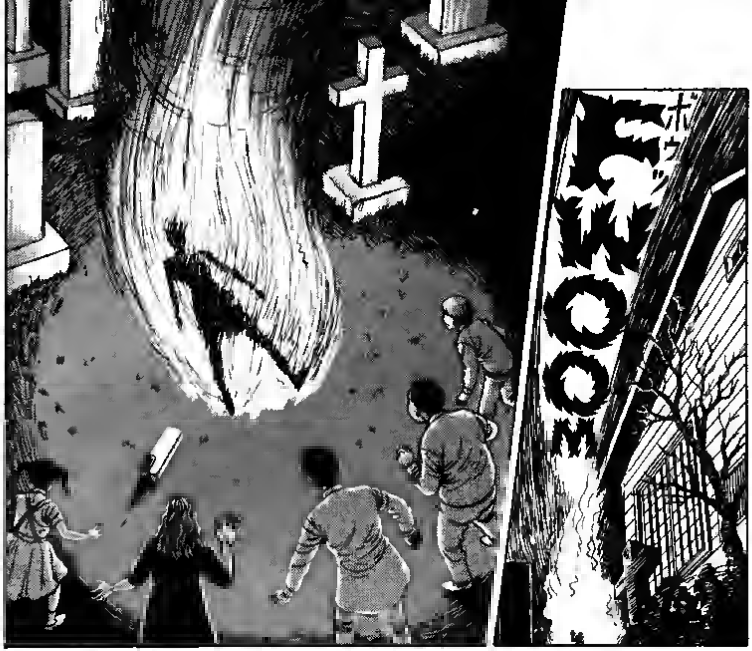
WE OUGHT TO BE MORE CHARITABLE WITH OUR GIFTS.
AFTER ALL, AS THE LIVING KEEPERS OF THE HIKIZURI LINEAGE
YES, BUT IF WE DID THAT YOU KNOW WE'D ALSO WANT TO DETACH HIS LEGS AND FEET AND SUCH.
THAT'S MORE PRACTICAL.
PLEASE GO ON WITH YOUR IDEAS.
AHAHAHA MISAKO IS ONTO SOME-THING.
GOT IT! LET'S HANG HIM FROM THE CEILING ON A SKEWER!
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE SO UNCOOPERATIVE.
HEY, HITOSHI, YOU SPEAK UP AS WELL. DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE JOINING IN?
WELL THEN LET'S KILL HIM PAINFULLY BY SINKING HIM IN WATER!
KE HE HE

HOW ABOUT WE SAY BIG SIS AND THAT PERSON AREN'T TO SEE EACH OTHER ANY MORE?
UM, WELL ...
KE HE HE
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT!
ONLY THAT ONE COULD BE THAT BORING!
...
I'M GOING TO DIE.
I CAN'T STAND IT ANY MORE!
AGH! ENOUGH ALREADY.
...
NO YOU'RE NOT.


MY MY, HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER NARUMI SUICIDE SHOW.
YES, I SAID I WILL DIE AND I AM GOING TO!
ザッ
I'M SERIOUS. I'M NOT FOOLING AROUND.
I MEAN IT!
ENOUGH!
カチャ
CLANG
WHAT'S WRONG? HURRY UP AND CUT DEEP.
HMPH. BUT YOU DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO DIE. I THINK YOU DO THESE THINGS JUST SO THAT PEOPLE FEEL SORRY FOR YOU.

I'LL BURN MYSELF TO DEATH. I'LL SOAK MYSELF IN KEROSENE AND BURN MYSELF TO DEATH.
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M EVEN MORE CERTAIN I'LL BE ABLE TO DIE WITH THIS BETTER METHOD ...
トクトクトク GLUG GLUG GLUG
ドボッ SPLASH
ガチャ CLICK ガチャ

WAIT A MINUTE ... YOU'RE REALLY POURING KEROSENE ...
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE SERIOUS ...
KITTE
STOP THIS BAD JOKE
N-NARUMI ... STOP THAT! IT'S DANGER-OUS!
チャッ
チャッ
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
NA..NARUMI, GIVE THE LIGHTER HERE.
SO WHY DON'T YOU HAND THAT LIGHTER OVER.
NA..NARUMI, LET'S DISCUSS THIS. IT'S YOUR BIG BROTHERS' FAULT. WE SCOLDED YOU ONE-SIDEDLY AND WE'RE SORRY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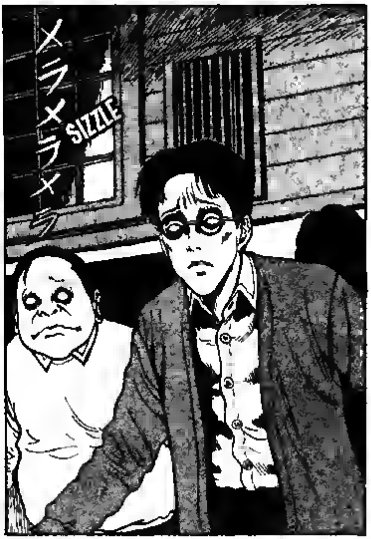
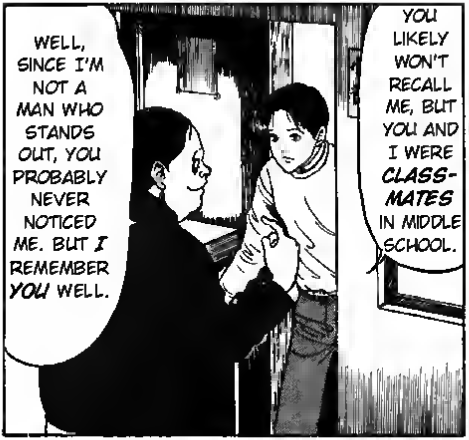

メラメラメラ
SIZZLE

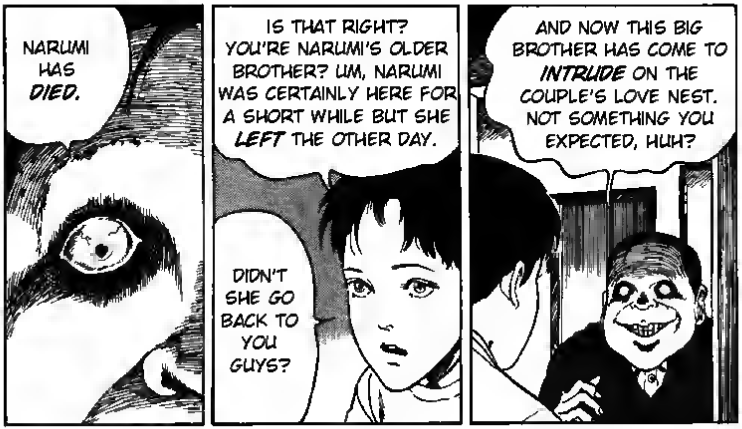
THIS IS NARUMI.
UH ... YES. IT'S NARUMI.
IS NARUMI BURNING RIGHT NOW?
BIG BROTHER ... IS THIS NARUMI ...?
BURN MORE AND MORE HAHAHA HAHA
HAHAHA ... BURN, BABY, BURN ...!
SHIGEROU!
HA HA
HA ...
NARUMI IS BURNING!
AHAHAHA SHE'S BURNING, SHE'S BURNING!

SO WHY IN THE WORLD DO I FEEL SO BLUE?
HER NOT BEING HERE SHOULD BE A RELIEF
NARUMI'S BEEN GONE FOR TWO DAYS
SIGN: KOTAN!
SIGN: YAMADA MANOR
NAR-UMI?
KNOCK KNOCK
COMING
KNOCK KNOCK
AH
NARUMI IS THAT YOU? ARE YOU COMING BACK?
ガチャッ
CLICK


WELL, SINCE I'M NOT A MAN WHO STANDS OUT, YOU PROBABLY NEVER NOTICED ME. BUT I REMEMBER YOU WELL.
YOU LIKELY WON'T RECALL ME, BUT YOU AND I WERE CLASS-MATES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

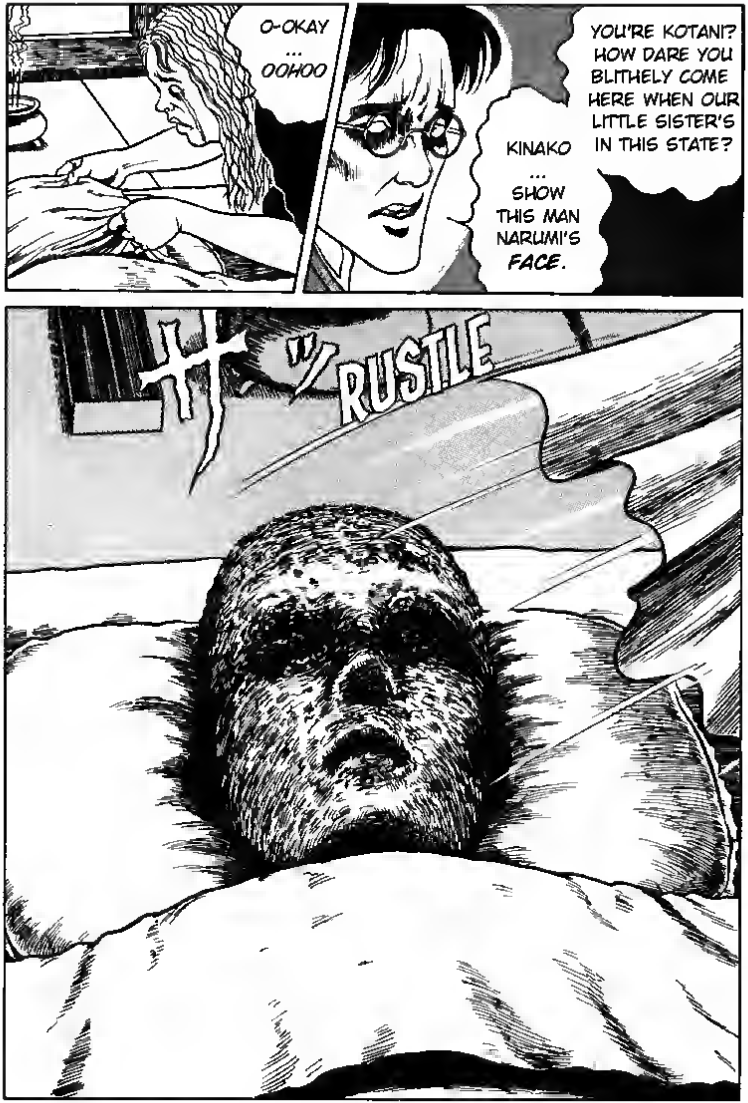
KO-TANI, I PRE-SUME
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU ARE?

BUT HER AGING-FACED BIG BROTHER IT SEEMS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT.
HOW SHALL I PUT IT? I KNOW THAT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL YOU AND MY SISTER GOT ON QUITE WELL. MY SISTER IS ALSO A POPULAR TYPE AND IT APPEARS THAT YOU WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO WIN HER AFFECTIONS.


NARUMI HAS DIED.
IS THAT RIGHT? YOU'RE NARUMI'S OLDER BROTHER? UM, NARUMI WAS CERTAINLY HERE FOR A SHORT WHILE BUT SHE LEFT THE OTHER DAY.
DIDN'T SHE GO BACK TO YOU GUYS?
AND NOW THIS BIG BROTHER HAS COME TO INTRUDE ON THE COUPLE'S LOVE NEST. NOT SOMETHING YOU EXPECTED, HUH?

IF YOU HAVE A CONSCIENCE YOU WILL GO TO OUR HOME TO VIEW MY SISTER'S REMAINS.
YES, KOTANI. SHE LEFT BEHIND A SUICIDE NOTE FILLED WITH RESENTMENT TOWARDS YOU.
EH?! SHE DIED?!
WHY DID YOU DIE?!
NARUMI
CREEAK
NARUMI!
OO HOO HOO
COME BACK TO LIFE!
BIG SIS ...
WELL, THIS IS IT. PLEASE COME IN.
...
I'VE BROUGHT KOTANI ALONG.

NARUMI!!
NARUMI!!
WELL THEN, COME IN.
GYAA!
GYAA!
OOOHHOO NARUMI!

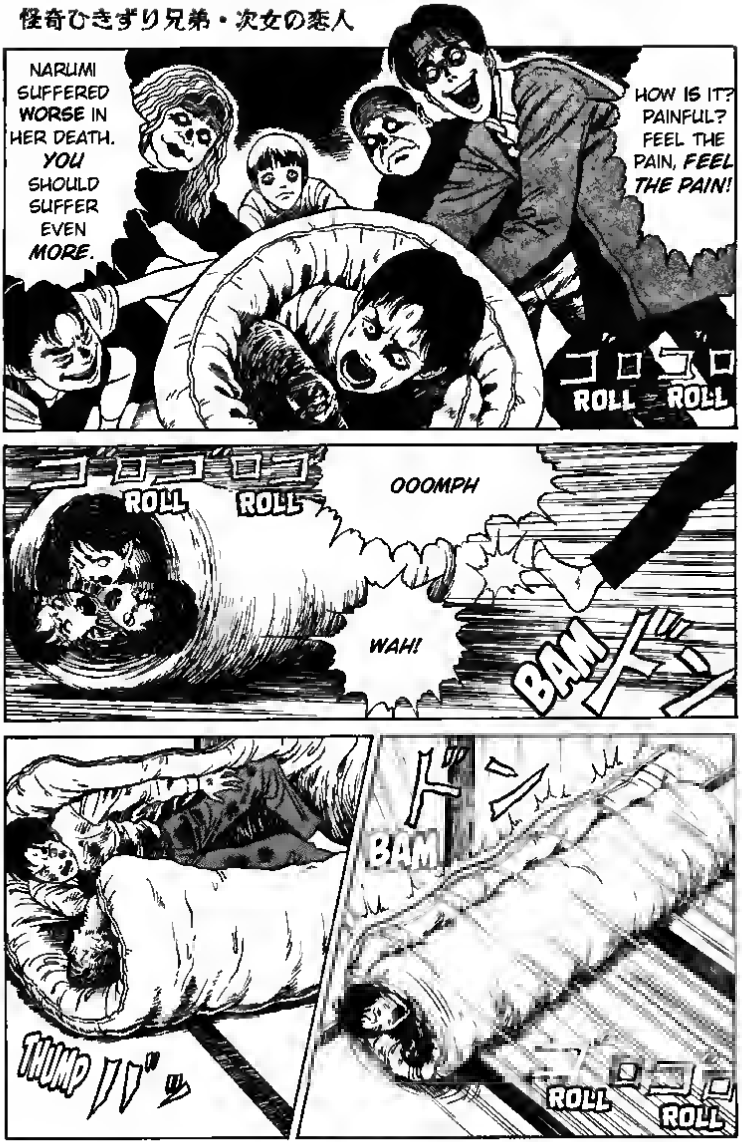

O-OKAY ... OOHOO
YOU'RE KOTANI? HOW DARE YOU BLITHELY COME HERE WHEN OUR LITTLE SISTER'S IN THIS STATE?
KINAKO ... SHOW THIS MAN NARUMI'S FACE.
RUSTLE

MY LITTLE SISTER BURNED HERSELF TO DEATH.
ヘナヘナ
HUFF
UWAH!
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ABOUT IT, I WONDER?
...
W-WHAT *SHOULD* I DO ABOUT IT?
KOTANI, IT'S *YOUR* FAULT OUR SISTER KILLED HERSELF. WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
I *SAID*, SLEEP HERE TOGETHER IN THIS FUTON!
HUH?! WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I THINK YOU SHOULD *REALLY* FACE OUR LITTLE SISTER WITH REMORSE, AND SO SLEEP THE WHOLE NIGHT HERE WITH NARUMI.

UW-AH!
GO ON
ガバッ
AHH PLEASE WAIT!
COME NOW, COME QUIETLY!
PLEASE ... PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
EEK!
ポロ
ROLL
ゴロゴロ
TUMBLE
HERE WE GO.

HEY, HITOSHI! PUT HER HEAD BACK ON THE PILLOW!
OH NO! NARUMI'S HEAD CAME OFF. SHE BURNED SO LONG SHE TURNED AS BRITTLE AS CHARCOAL.
GYAA!
NO WAY! ... YOU MUST DO THIS ALL NIGHT TONIGHT!
PLEASE! FORGIVE ME!
YIKES

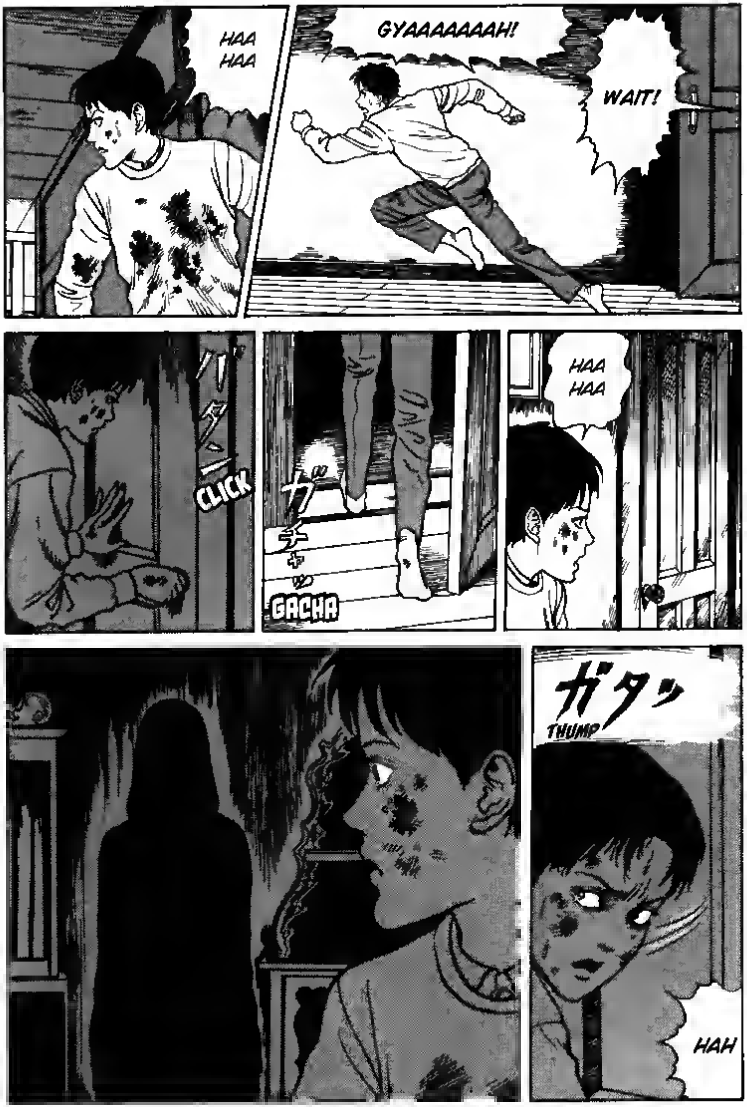
UG-AAA!
GIVE HER A KISS!
THIS IS BIG SIS' REVENGE!
THIS IS FOR BIG SIS!
BAM
BAM
HEY, LET'S WRAP THEM AROUND AND AROUND IN THE FUTON!
KE HE HE
HEAVE HO! HEAVE HO!
UWAA!
OH! THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!

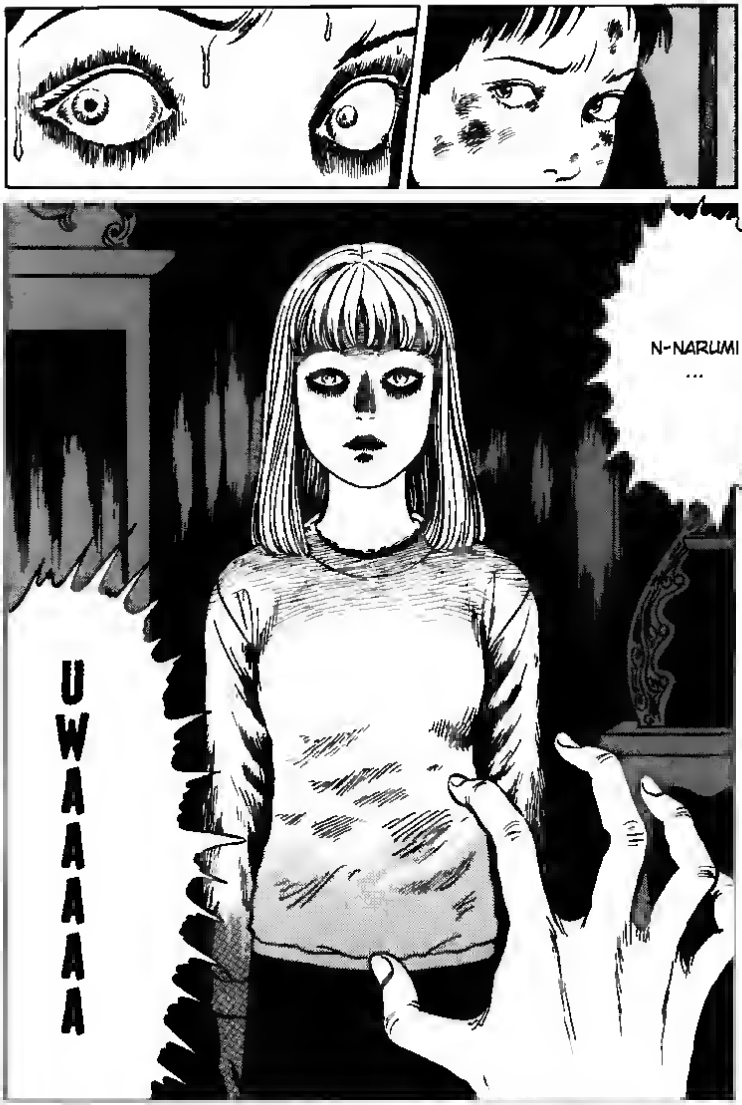

NARUMI SUFFERED WORSE IN HER DEATH. YOU SHOULD SUFFER EVEN MORE.
HOW IS IT? PAINFUL? FEEL THE PAIN, FEEL THE PAIN!
ゴロゴロ
ROLL ROLL
ROLL ROLL
OOOMPH
WAH!
BAM
ドン
BAM
THUMP
ROLL ROLL

FWUMP
YAH!
YAHHH!
HE'S RUN-NING TO THE BACK!
HAH
YAH!
AH HE RAN AWAY!
KAAH! I WON'T LET YOU ESCAPE!

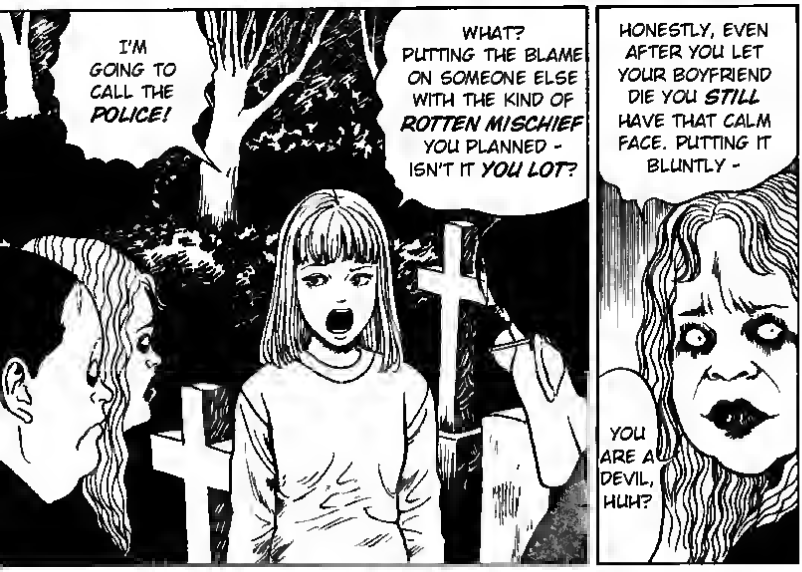
HAA HAA
HAA
HA HA HA HA TRYING TO RUN AWAY?
YOU'RE RUSHING TO YOUR DOOM!
HAA
HAA
THIS IS RIDICULOUS ... A STORY THIS ABSURD ...
ICK - IT'S THE CHARCOAL FROM THE CORPSE
THE CHARCOAL FROM NARUMI IS ALL OVER ME
IT'S UN-BELIEVE-ABLE ... TRULY UN-BELIEVE-ABLE

BUT HOW WILL I ESCAPE THIS HIKIZURI HOUSE?
PLAYING AROUND LIKE THAT WITH THE ACTUAL CORPSE OF THEIR SISTER - THEY'RE INSANE
-:HAA:-
-:HAA:-
THOSE GUYS AREN'T NORMAL
KE HE HE
WE WON'T LET YOU ESCAPE!
UWAH!


HAA
HAA
GYAAAAAAAH!
WAIT!
バタン
CLICK
ガチャ
GACHA
HAA
HAA
ガタッ
THUMP
HAH


N-NARUMI
...
UWAAAAA

NARUMI! IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE STANDING STILL THERE, LOOKING LIKE A GHOST. IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.
IT WAS A HEART ATTACK.
TSK - TALK ABOUT UNLUCKY! CAN'T BELIEVE HE DIED!
ザクッ
DIG
ザクッ
DIG


I'M GOING TO CALL THE POLICE!
WHAT? PUTTING THE BLAME ON SOMEONE ELSE WITH THE KIND OF ROTTEN MISCHIEF YOU PLANNED - ISN'T IT YOU LOT?
HONESTLY, EVEN AFTER YOU LET YOUR BOYFRIEND DIE YOU STILL HAVE THAT CALM FACE. PUTTING IT BLUNTLY -
YOU ARE A DEVIL, HUH?

HEY BIG BROTHER, WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THIS BURNED MANNEQUIN?
NOW NARUMI, *CALM DOWN*. IT ENDED IN AN *UNFORTUNATE OUTCOME* BUT WE'RE YOUR *FAMILY*
THE SIX OF US FROM NOW ON WILL LIVE TOGETHER PEACEFULLY, WON'T WE? BLOOD *IS* THICKER THAN WATER.
HMPH, I WASN'T SERIOUSLY GOING TO DO IT.
EVEN SO, IT WAS QUITE A SURPRISE WHEN NARUMI WAS GOING TO SET HERSELF ON FIRE.
THAT'S RIGHT, I FORGOT. WELL, WE'LL BURY IT WITH KOTANI. IT'S NARUMI'S SUBSTITUTE. AT LEAST THERE'S SOME COMFORT IN THAT.
HUH? WE HAVE TO DIG AGAIN? I GIVE UP!

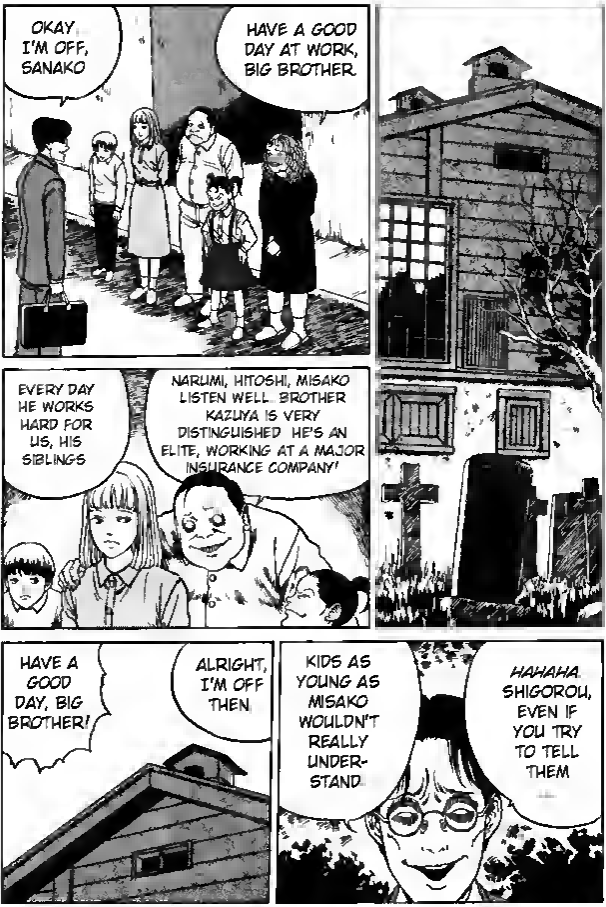
怪奇ひきずり兄弟

THE BIZARRE HIKIZURI SIBLINGS

降霊会

THE SEANCE

SLUG-CHICKS.BLOGSPOT.COM


OKAY. I'M OFF, SANAKO
HAVE A GOOD DAY AT WORK, BIG BROTHER.
EVERY DAY HE WORKS HARD FOR US, HIS SIBLINGS
NARUMI, HITOSHI, MISAKO LISTEN WELL. BROTHER KAZUYA IS VERY DISTINGUISHED. HE'S AN ELITE, WORKING AT A MAJOR INSURANCE COMPANY!
HAVE A GOOD DAY, BIG BROTHER!
ALRIGHT, I'M OFF THEN.
KIDS AS YOUNG AS MISAKO WOULDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND.
HAHAHA. SHIGOROU, EVEN IF YOU TRY TO TELL THEM

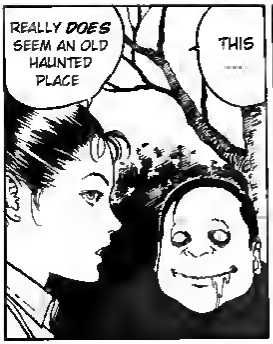
THE HIKIZURI FAMILY HAS A PRETTY GOOD INHERITANCE, PLENTY ENOUGH TO FEED ALL OF US
EVERY DAY I USE THIS WORK EXCUSE TO JUST GO AND WASTE MY TIME SOME PLACE
THANK GOODNESS THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
SO THEN WHERE TO GO TODAY?
BUT IT WOULD BE A BAD INFLUENCE FOR ANY OF THEM TO SEE ME, THE ELDEST SON, JUST MESSING ABOUT
AH, THE BURDENS I BEAR FOR MY BELOVED SIBLINGS!
SIUN TAMARI SAKE POND PARK

カシャ
K-CHK
K-CHK
K-CHK
K-CHK
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

HELLO, MISS INTERESTING HOBBY, ISN'T IT, TAKING PICTURES OF SCENERY?
カシャ
CLICK
NOT REALLY. I'M ACTUALLY TAKING SPIRIT PHOTOS
CAPTURED BY YOU, EVEN AN UNREMARKABLE POND LIKE THIS COULD BE TRANSFORMED INTO ART
SPIRIT PHOTOS?
YES- MANY CHILDREN DROWNED IN THIS POND SO I THOUGHT I'D TAKE SOME PICTURES HERE MAYBE I'LL CATCH SOMETHING ON FILM

MEP I'M SACHIYO MAY I HELP YOU?
I'M ALSO VERY INTERESTED IN SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA BY THE WAY, MISS, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I SEE! SO YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THAT KIND OF THING
MY HOME IS AN OLD HAUNTED MANSION YOU'LL DEFINITELY GET SOME GOOD PICTURES!
HOW ABOUT THIS - WILL YOU COME OVER TO MINE THIS EVENING?
A FEW DAYS LATER
HAHAHA NO NEED TO WORRY, I'M NOT SOME KIND OF WEIRDO
FORGIVE MY LATE INTRO-DUCTION! I'M KAZUYA HIKIZURI

SO? THIS IS MY HOME AND GARDEN. SEEMS PRETTY HAUNTED, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
THANKS FOR COMING TODAY, MISS SACHIYO.


REALLY DOES SEEM AN OLD HAUNTED PLACE
THIS ....

THIS GRAVE IS VERY PRECIOUS TO US.
THIS IS THE GRAVE WHERE OUR PARENTS LIE. OUR FATHER WAS A STERN MAN, OUR MOTHER VERY GENTLE

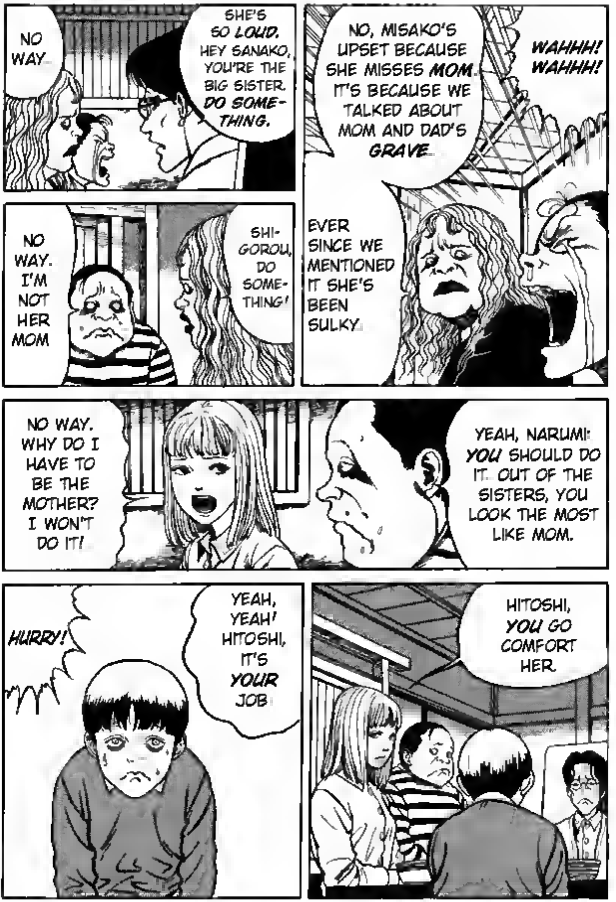
OH -- MY NAME IS SHIGOROU NICE TO MEET YOU. HEHEHE
PLEASE LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND THE GARDEN. THERE ARE EVEN MORE INTERESTING THINGS THIS WAY
OH, WELCOME, WELCOME NICE TO MEET YOU, MISS SACHIYO.
AREN'T YOU BEAU-TIFUL? HEHEHE
HOW ABOUT THIS? THIS DEAD TREE MAY HAVE CORPSES BURIED BENEATH ITS ROOTS! HEHEHE
NO THANK YOU I ONLY CAME TODAY TO TAKE PICTURES OF THE GARDEN. I'LL BE FINISHED SOON.
OH -- MISS SACHIYO, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME IN FOR SOME TEA? I'VE MADE SOME DELICIOUS CAKES
AHEM
HEHEHE I SEE WELL, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THEN.

モグモグ
MUNCH
MUNCH
ムシャムシャ
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

ぶぼぼぼ
GULP
GULP
じゅるるる
SLURP
SLURP

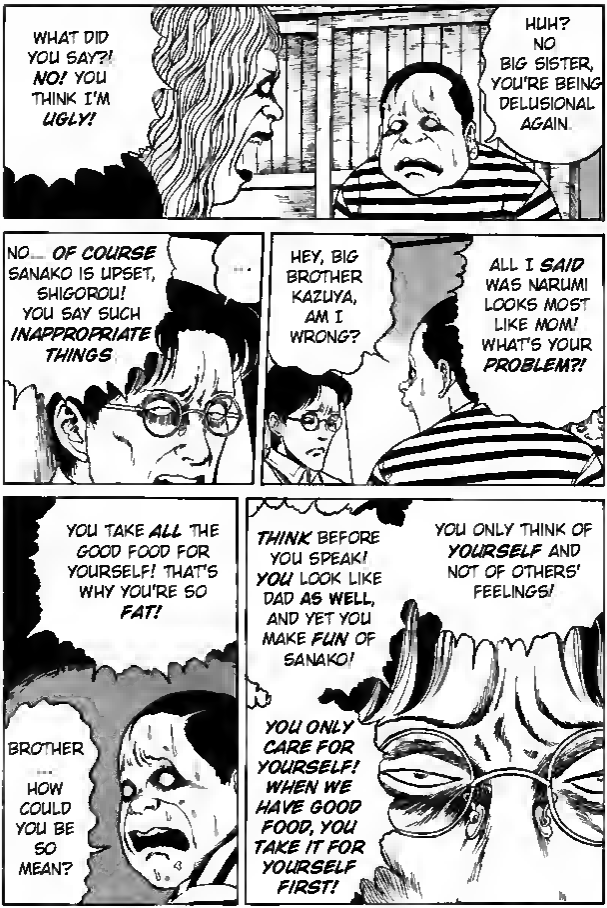
モグモグ
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH

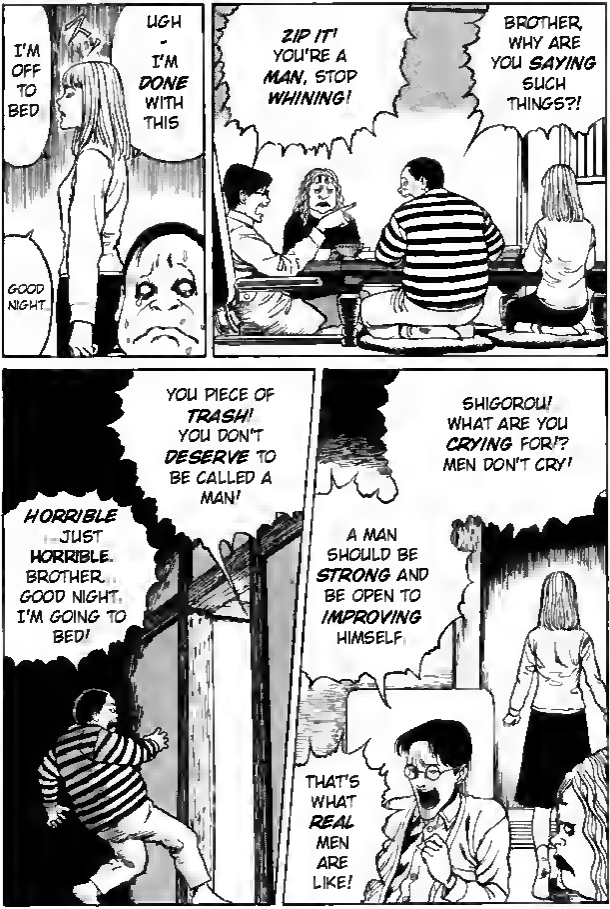
TOMORROW, DON'T BOTHER EATING DINNER WITH US
CAN'T YOU EAT WITH MORE MANNERS?! JUST WATCHING YOU GETS ON MY NERVES.
HUH
WHAT, BIG BROTHER?
HEY, SHIGORU!!
ARE YOU DEFYING ME?
SHUT UP. STOP WHINING.
WHY ARE YOU LIKE THIS TODAY?
WHA--? BIG BROTHER, I'VE ALWAYS EATEN THIS WAY.
LOOK, YOUR YELLING MADE MISAKO CRY.
WAHHH! WAHHH!
:-W-:


NO WAY.
SHE'S SO LOUD. HEY SANAKO, YOU'RE THE BIG SISTER. DO SOMETHING.
NO, MISAKO'S UPSET BECAUSE SHE MISSES MOM. IT'S BECAUSE WE TALKED ABOUT MOM AND DAD'S GRAVE.
WAHHH! WAHHH!
EVER SINCE WE MENTIONED IT SHE'S BEEN SULKY.
NO WAY. I'M NOT HER MOM
SHI-GOROU, DO SOMETHING!
NO WAY. WHY DO I HAVE TO BE THE MOTHER? I WON'T DO IT!
YEAH, NARUMI! YOU SHOULD DO IT. OUT OF THE SISTERS, YOU LOOK THE MOST LIKE MOM.
HURRY!
YEAH, YEAH! HITOSHI, IT'S YOUR JOB!
HITOSHI, YOU GO COMFORT HER.

HEY, HEY, MISAKO. MOM AND DAD HAVE BOTH GONE TO HEAVEN. WE CAN'T SEE THEM ANY MORE, SO LET'S JUST DO OUR BEST.
WAHHH! WAHHH!
UPSY-DAISY
EH HE HE
EH
KAAAAH!
HI!!! ---!
YOU'RE LYING! I'LL DEFINITELY SEE MOM AGAIN!
SLASH
GYAAAH!

IDIOT ... HOW'S THAT COMFORTING?
OF COURSE IT'LL MAKE MISAKO MAD.
HIII--!
KAAH!
THEN YOU'RE SAYING THAT OUT OF US GIRLS, I LOOK THE MOST LIKE DAD.
HUH? YEAH ... I DID. WHAT ABOUT IT?
SHIGOROU, YOU JUST SAID THAT OUT OF US SISTERS, NARUMI LOOKS THE MOST LIKE MOM
AREN'T YOU?
YOU'RE SAYING THAT I LOOK JUST AS UNATTRACTIVE AS DAD ...
EH?

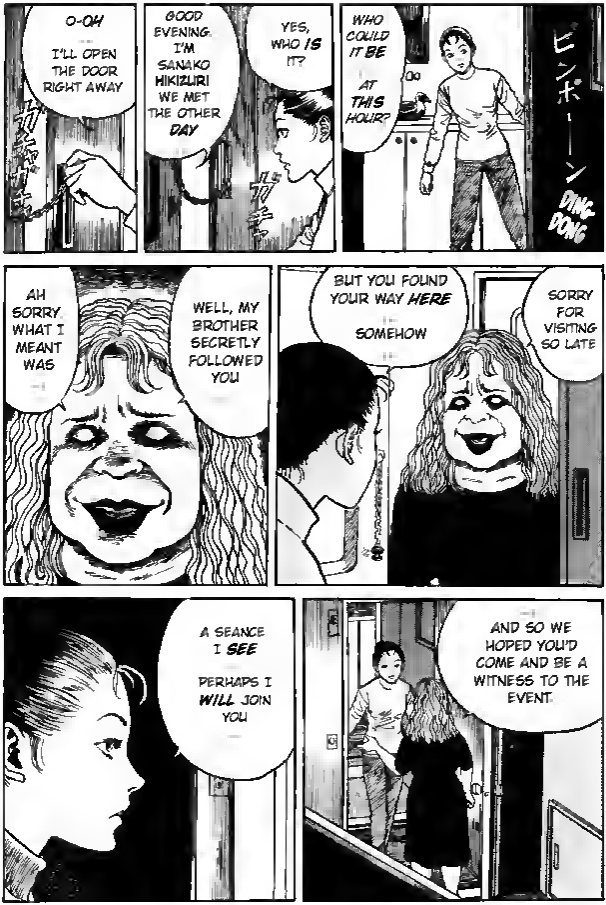

WHAT DID YOU SAY?! NO! YOU THINK I'M UGLY!
HUH? NO BIG SISTER, YOU'RE BEING DELUSIONAL AGAIN.
NO... OF COURSE SANAKO IS UPSET, SHIGOROU! YOU SAY SUCH INAPPROPRIATE THINGS.
...
HEY, BIG BROTHER KAZUYA, AM I WRONG?
ALL I SAID WAS NARUMI LOOKS MOST LIKE MOM! WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?!
YOU TAKE ALL THE GOOD FOOD FOR YOURSELF! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO FAT!
BROTHER ... HOW COULD YOU BE SO MEAN?
THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK! YOU LOOK LIKE DAD AS WELL, AND YET YOU MAKE FUN OF SANAKO!
YOU ONLY THINK OF YOURSELF AND NOT OF OTHERS' FEELINGS!
YOU ONLY CARE FOR YOURSELF! WHEN WE HAVE GOOD FOOD, YOU TAKE IT FOR YOURSELF FIRST!


I'M OFF TO BED
UGH - I'M DONE WITH THIS
GOOD NIGHT.
ZIP IT! YOU'RE A MAN, STOP WHINING!
BROTHER, WHY ARE YOU SAYING SUCH THINGS?!
YOU PIECE OF TRASH! YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE CALLED A MAN!
HORRIBLE... JUST HORRIBLE. BROTHER... GOOD NIGHT. I'M GOING TO BED!
SHIGOROU! WHAT ARE YOU CRYING FOR!? MEN DON'T CRY!
A MAN SHOULD BE STRONG AND BE OPEN TO IMPROVING HIMSELF.
THAT'S WHAT REAL MEN ARE LIKE!

HMPH. IT'S FINE. I'VE BEEN MEANING TO DISCIPLINE HIM.
HEY, BIG BROTHER DON'T YOU THINK YOU WENT A BIT TOO FAR? EVEN THOUGH SHIGOROU WAS MEAN ..
-SNORE-
HUH ... WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HOW CAN THE DEAD POSSIBLY MEET THE LIVING?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF TAKING MISAKO TO MEET OUR PARENTS?
OH, SANAKO ... I DIDN'T THINK OF THIS EARLIER
WILL IT REALLY WORK?
BUT ...
I KNOW I CAN DO IT. I'M SURE I HAVE PSYCHIC POWERS.
YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL YOU TRY.
WE CAN HOLD A SEANCE AND CALL MOM AND DAD.
WE CAN SUMMON THE DEAD ... WITH A SEANCE

SO, SANAKO ...
I'M THINKING OF ASKING MISS SACHIYO TO JOIN US. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WELL ...
THAT CERTAINLY SOUNDS LIKE YOUR MAIN GOAL, DOESN'T IT?
R-RUBBISH ...
WOW
THIS IS AMA-ZING ....
ピチャ
ピチャ
THIS IS INCREDIBLE. AMAZING PICTURES ...
ALL THOSE ENTITIES BEHIND THIS CHILD
EVERY SINGLE PHOTO SEEMS TO CONTAIN SPIRIT-LIKE ENTITIES

DING-
DONG
ピンポーン


O-OH
I'LL OPEN THE DOOR RIGHT AWAY
GOOD EVENING. I'M SANAKO HIKIZURI WE MET THE OTHER DAY
YES, WHO IS IT?
WHO COULD IT BE AT THIS HOUR?
ピンポーン
DING-DONG
AH SORRY WHAT I MEANT WAS
WELL, MY BROTHER SECRETLY FOLLOWED YOU
BUT YOU FOUND YOUR WAY HERE SOMEHOW
SORRY FOR VISITING SO LATE
A SEANCE I SEE PERHAPS I WILL JOIN YOU
AND SO WE HOPED YOU'D COME AND BE A WITNESS TO THE EVENT.

WELL ... IN THAT CASE, WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU!
GOOD EVENING ... THIS IS IS MY BOYFRIEND, SAWANO
HE STUDIES PHYSICS AT UNIVERSITY BUT HE'S INTERESTED IN SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA TOO, SO I BROUGHT HIM ALONG.
HELLO ... I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SEANCE TONIGHT

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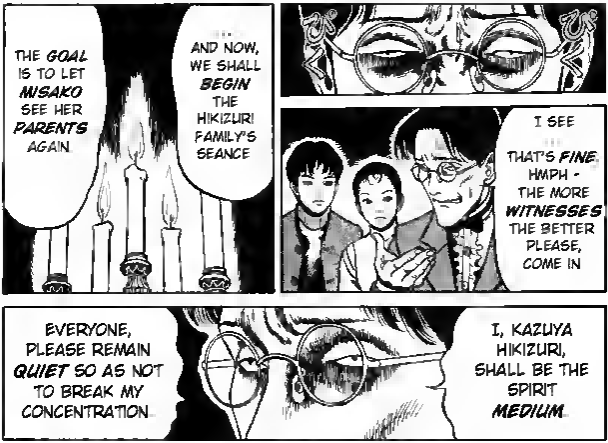
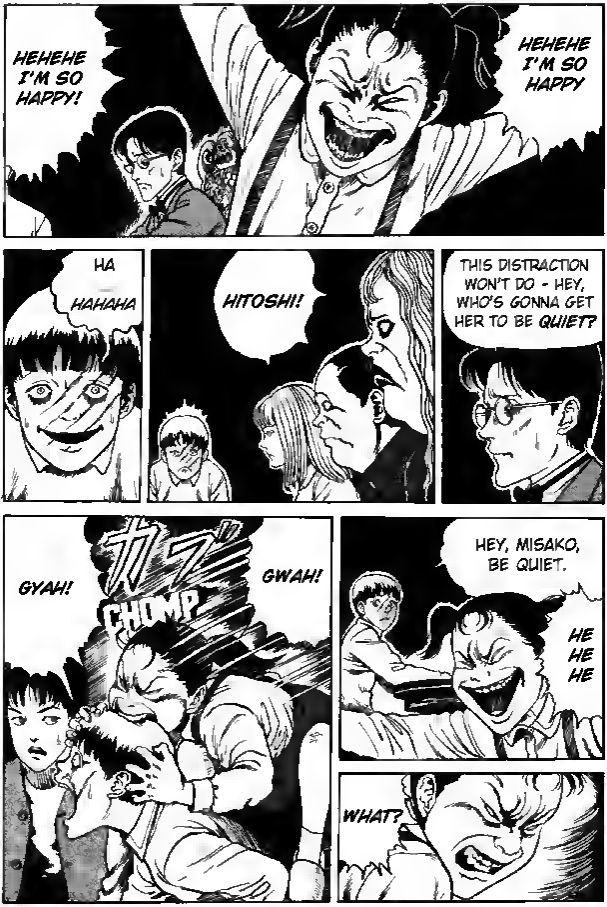

AND NOW, WE SHALL BEGIN THE HIKIZURI FAMILY'S SEANCE
THE GOAL IS TO LET MISAKO SEE HER PARENTS AGAIN
I SEE
THAT'S FINE. HMPH - THE MORE WITNESSES THE BETTER PLEASE, COME IN
I, KAZUYA HIKIZURI, SHALL BE THE SPIRIT MEDIUM
EVERYONE, PLEASE REMAIN QUIET SO AS NOT TO BREAK MY CONCENTRATION

HEHEHE I'M SO HAPPY
HEHEHE I'M SO HAPPY!


HEHEHE I'M SO HAPPY!
HEHEHE I'M SO HAPPY
HA HAHAHA
HITOSHI!
THIS DISTRACTION WON'T DO - HEY, WHO'S GONNA GET HER TO BE QUIET?
GYAH!
CHOMP
GWAH!
HEY, MISAKO, BE QUIET.
HE HE HE
WHAT?

EH? REALLY?
HEY, MISAKO IF YOU DON'T QUIET DOWN, YOU WON'T GET TO SEE MOM AND DAD.
KAAH!
GYAHH!
HIC
WAH WAH
SO ONCE AGAIN
WE WILL NOW ATTEMPT TO CALL THE SPIRITS OF OUR PARENTS.

びくっ
TWITCH
びくっ
TWITCH
チラッ
GLANCE
UH
UUH
...
UGH
UGH
...
UGAH!
UGU
...
UH
...

UGEH!
UGEH!
SHIG-OROU, ARE YOU OKAY?
SHIG-OROU!
UUOH! UGUU!
BLEAGH

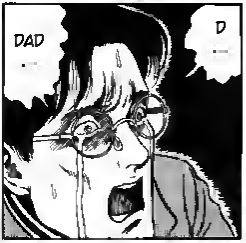
IT'S ECTO-PLASM!
UGH UGH
IT MUST BE A MANIFEST-ATION!
YES! THAT COULD TAKE THE FORM OF YOUR PARENTS!
ボト
GLOOP

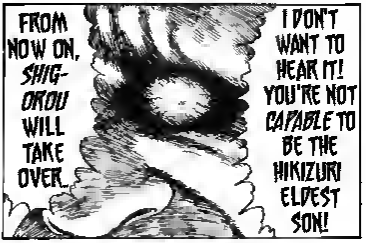
I CAME FROM THE NEXT WORLD TO SEE MY CHILDREN
I AM GOUZOU!
HAH
HAH
HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
MY ADORABLE CHILDREN
WHERE'S KAZUYA ?!
KAZ-UYA
IT'S DAD - DAD'S SPIRIT HAS POSSESSED SHIGOROU'S BODY!

DAD, I'M HERE! IT'S ME, KAZUYA!
D-DAD ...
YES! OF COURSE, I'VE BEEN LOOKING AFTER OUR FAMILY!
HAVE YOU LOOKED AFTER YOUR YOUNGER SIBLINGS?!
OH! KAZ-UYA!
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY, DAD.
THEY ALL TRUST ME AND WE'RE LIVING HAPPILY TOGETHER.
YOU LIAR!

YOU ONLY *PRETEND* TO WORK AND SPEND YOUR TIME LOAFING ABOUT!
ARE YOU *REALLY* CARING FOR YOUR SIBLINGS?
YOU MAY HAVE FOOLED THEM BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL ME..

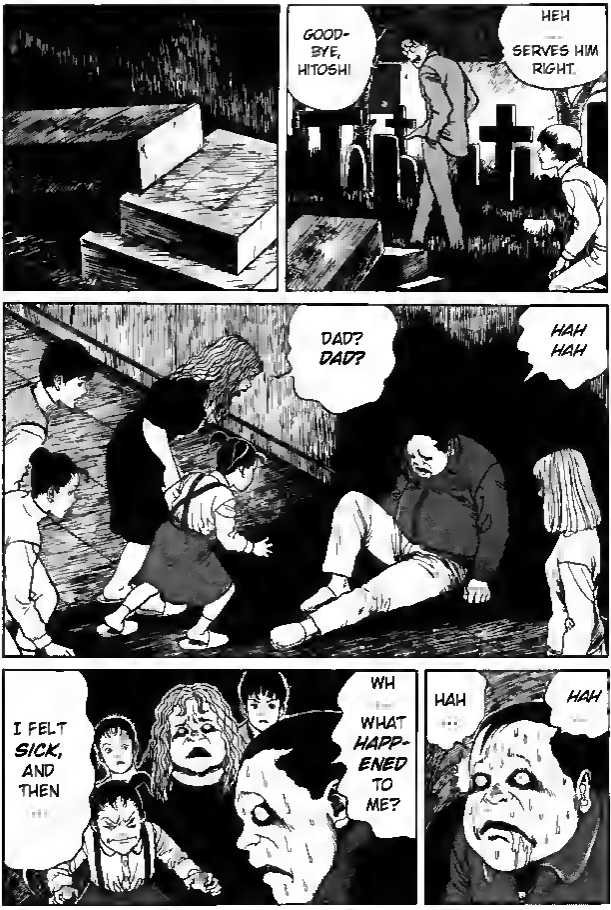
D-DAD ... YOU'RE MISTAKEN, PLEASE LISTEN!
YOU'RE NOT FIT TO BE THE ELDEST BROTHER. YOU CAN'T FILL THESE SHOES.


DAD ...
D ...


FROM NOW ON, *SHIGEKIYO* WILL TAKE OVER.
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT! YOU'RE NOT *CAPABLE* TO BE THE HIKIZURI ELDEST SON!

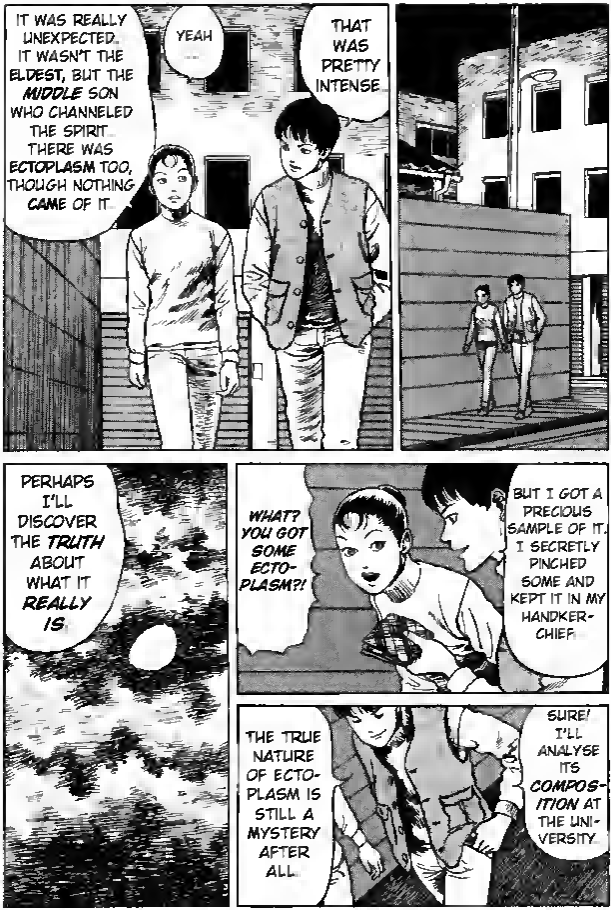
TRASH LIKE YOU SHOULD LEAVE THIS FAMILY!
THUD
YOU'RE A MAN, STOP CRYING!
OW!
DAD, FORGIVE ME ...
DAD ...
WHO WOULD WANT TO STAY IN THIS FAMILY ANYWAY?!
F-FINE, I'LL GO!
UUOHH !
UH ...

I SAID MOVE!
MOVE AWAY
HITO-SHI
BAM
YOU DAMNED OLD GEEZER!
ドカッ
BANG


GOOD-BYE, HITOSHI
HEH... SERVES HIM RIGHT.
DAD? DAD?
HAH HAH
I FELT SICK, AND THEN...
WH... WHAT HAPP-ENED TO ME?
HAH...
HAH...

YOU WERE POSSESSED BY DAD'S SPIRIT.
AND BROTHER KAZUYA LEFT...
WHAT? IS HE BACK TO BEING SHIGOROU?
WHAT?! REALLY?
SO THIS IS ECTO-PLASM
GYAH!
WHAT? MISAKO, WHAT'S WRONG?
MOM DIDN'T EVEN SHOW UP!
WHERE'S MOM ?!
GYAAAH!

WHAT? REALLY?!
IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
AH, YES! MISAKO! THAT ECTOPLASM COULD TURN INTO MOM, SO DON'T CRY.
GYAH!
DON'T CRY OVER SUCH A SMALL THING.
YAY! HEHE HEHE HEHE HEHE!
I'M SURE MOM WILL APPEAR.
YES. BRING IT BACK TO THE HOUSE AND CALL FOR HER.
BUT AS IT SEEMS I HAVE PSYCHIC POWERS, I CAN ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR PSYCHIC RESEARCH IF YOU'D LIKE
OH, MISS SACHIYO, HOW EMBARRASSING FOR YOU TO SEE ME LIKE THAT HEHEHE

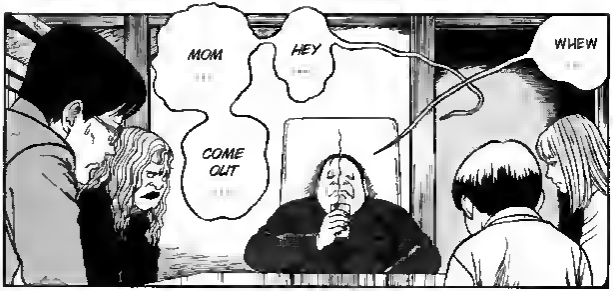

IT WAS REALLY UNEXPECTED. IT WASN'T THE ELDEST, BUT THE MIDDLE SON WHO CHANNELED THE SPIRIT. THERE WAS ECTOPLASM TOO, THOUGH NOTHING CAME OF IT.
YEAH...
THAT WAS PRETTY INTENSE...
PERHAPS I'LL DISCOVER THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT IT REALLY IS.
WHAT? YOU GOT SOME ECTO-PLASM?!
BUT I GOT A PRECIOUS SAMPLE OF IT. I SECRETLY PINCHED SOME AND KEPT IT IN MY HANDKER-CHIEF.
THE TRUE NATURE OF ECTO-PLASM IS STILL A MYSTERY AFTER ALL.
SURE! I'LL ANALYSE ITS COMPOS-ITION AT THE UNI-VERSITY.

COME ON OUT!
COME ON!
MOM!
HURRY, COME OUT!
COME OUT!
...
AW COME ON!
HEY!

O-OF COURSE RIGHT AWAY..
APPOINTED BY FATHER HIMSELF!
MOVE IT! I'M THE MAN OF THE HOUSE NOW
HEY, SAN-AKO.
TEA..
GUH
NOW!
GEEZ!
...
...
HEY, NARUMI, MASSAGE MY SHOULDER.
AH, MY SHOULDER IS SO SORE
ARE YOU LISTENING?!
HEY! HITOSHI!
HEY, HITOSHI!
YOU MASSAGE MY FEET

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES ARE FOR SUCH AN ATTITUDE?
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE, HITOSHI?!
ARE YOU DEFYING ME?
AND THIS
TAKE THIS
YOU LITTLE -
-HAH-
-HAH-
YOU -

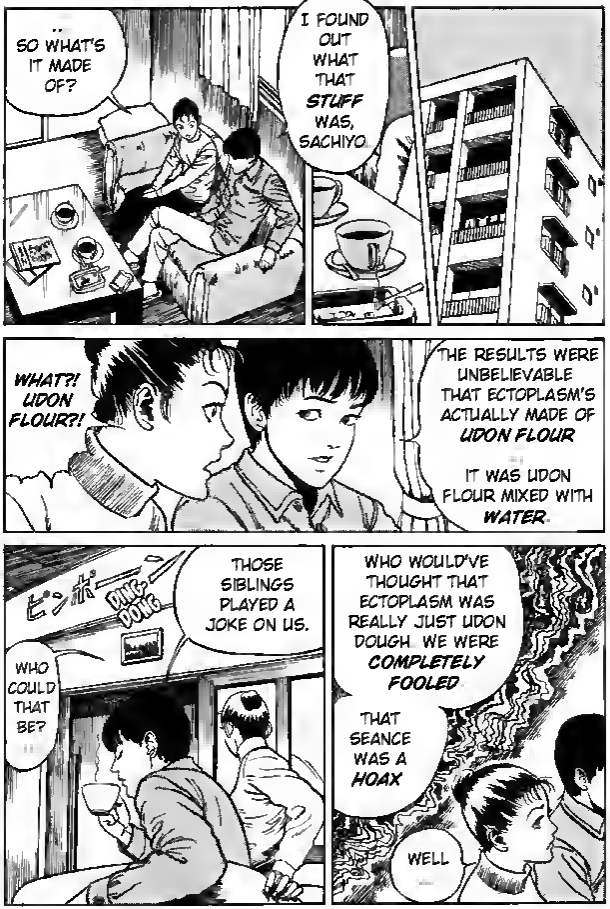
DON'T HIDE THERE, COME IN.
ELDER BROTHER, YOU CAME BACK. WELL, YOU'VE GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.
ギクッ
HM?
BUT WHO KNOWS WHEN DAD WILL POSSESS ME AGAIN
...
HUH? YEAH
SHIGOROU HAVE YOU REGAINED YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS?
ズーン
AH!
IT'S MINE!
WHAP
A~AH
THANK YOU, SANAKO.
HERE'S YOUR TEA


MOM
HEY
COME OUT
WHEW

SHE'S CALLING FOR MOM'S SPIRIT.
COME ON!
HEY, SANAKO. WHAT'S MISAKO DOING?

HEY, KAZUYA! BRING HER TO ME!
THE SPIRIT MEDIUM SHALL OF COURSE BE ME, AND I WANT MISS SACHIYO TO BE A WITNESS!
AND TELL HER NOT TO BRING THAT FRAT BOY, SAWANO! THAT KID GETS IN THE WAY!

I THINK WE SHOULD HOLD ANOTHER SEANCE TOMORROW NIGHT.
AHEM! EVERYONE LISTEN UP.
THE GOAL IS TO SUMMON MOM'S SPIRIT FOR MISAKO.


..
SO WHAT'S IT MADE OF?
I FOUND OUT WHAT THAT STUFF WAS, SACHIYO.
WHAT?! UDON FLOUR?!
THE RESULTS WERE UNBELIEVABLE THAT ECTOPLASM'S ACTUALLY MADE OF UDON FLOUR
IT WAS UDON FLOUR MIXED WITH WATER.
ピンポーン
DING-DONG.
WHO COULD THAT BE?
THOSE SIBLINGS PLAYED A JOKE ON US.
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT ECTOPLASM WAS REALLY JUST UDON DOUGH. WE WERE COMPLETELY FOOLED.
THAT SEANCE WAS A HOAX
WELL

WE WERE HOPING YOU'D JOIN US, MISS SACHIYO
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.. WE'RE ACTUALLY HOLDING ANOTHER SEANCE TOMORROW NIGHT
YES?
AH
H--HEY THERE
バタン
SLAM
AH!
PLEASE DO NOT COME BACK HERE AGAIN!
WELL! I REFUSE TO ATTEND A FAKE SEANCE!
THAT 'ECTOPLASM' WAS REALLY JUST UDON FLOUR, WASN'T IT!? WE CHECKED! AND WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF YOUR BROTHER'S EXAGGERATED ACTING!
WH--WHAT!? THE ECTOPLASM WAS UDON FLOUR?
SHIGOROU WAS ACTING?

GYAAA AAHHH!
GYAAAA AAAAHHH!
BIG BRO-THER SHIG-EROU, YOU LIED!
LIAR!
WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS, MISAKO?
OH, DON'T WORRY, MISAKO WE'RE HOLDING ANOTHER SEANCE TONIGHT.
THIS TIME MOM WILL DEFINITELY COME.
WHAT!? REAL-LY!?
IT EVEN DRIED UP AND GREW MOLD!
IT DIDN'T TURN INTO MOM!

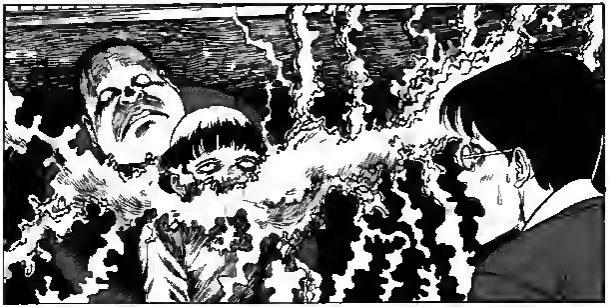
HEY SHIGOROU!
GRR
GRAB
YES, REALLY REALLY
CREEP
REALLY REALLY?
DON'T ACT DUMB, YOU BASTARD!
W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING
YOU BASTARD, YOU WANNA MESS WITH ME?
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME WITH YOUR LITTLE ACT OF BEING POSSESSED BY DAD!
WHAT IS IT, OLDER BROTHER?
YOU'RE BACK
I CAME FROM THE NEXT WORLD TO SEE MY CHILDREN
UUH... UGUH I...
I AM GOUZOU
...

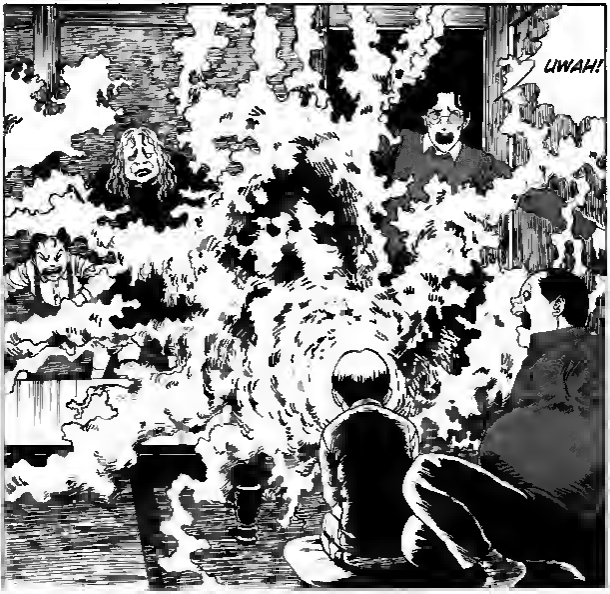
KAZUYA - ARE YOU KAZUYA?!
AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF DAD?
O-OLDER BROTHER, PLEASE CALM DOWN
SHUT UP! YOU CAN TALK TO MY FIST!
UGH!
BASH!
I ONLY PRETENDED TO BE AFRAID TO SHOW HIM RESPECT
YOU IDIOT! I WAS NEVER AFRAID OF HIM!
KILL HIM INSTEAD!
B-BROTHER, PLEASE SPARE ME!
HIIII! HELP!
I GIVE YOU AN INCH AND YOU TAKE A MILE
I'LL KILL YOU!

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE, HITOSHI?
HURRY, GET OUT OF THE WAY!

HEY, HITOSHI, MOVE OUT THE WAY!
HII!
BANG
I SAID MOVE!
YOU JUST DON'T QUIT DO YOU?!

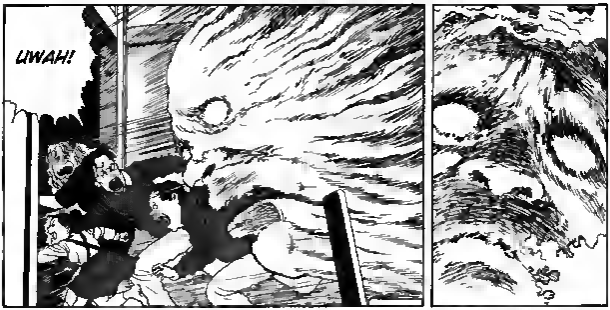
HAH!

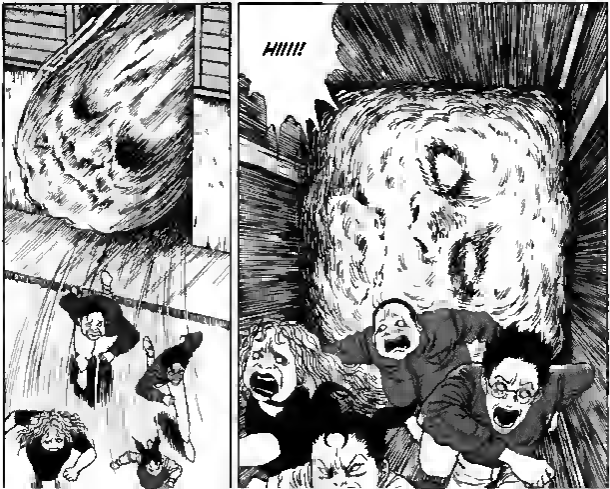


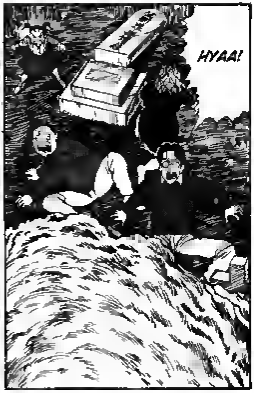

UWAH!

UWAH!

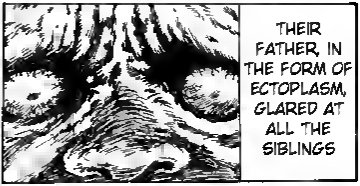
IT'S DAD!
D-DAD!

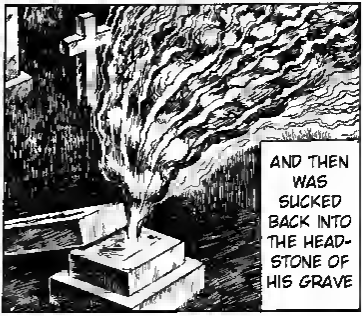

UWAH!


HIIII!


HYAA!

UWAH!
WHAT'S UP WITH EVERY BODY?
STAY AWAY!


THEIR FATHER, IN THE FORM OF ECTOPLASM, GLARED AT ALL THE SIBLINGS


AND THEN WAS SUCKED BACK INTO THE HEAD-STONE OF HIS GRAVE

THE BIZARRE HIKIZURI SIBLINGS
THE SECOND DAUGHTER'S LOVER

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THE SEANCE

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